

Mexico Races To Tap Its International Credit Line

Weakening Peso Saps Investors' Confidence After Corporate Default

By Lawrence Malkin and Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

Alarmed at the prospect of renewed financial panic, Mexico announced Thursday that it would tap its emergency international rescue package for the first time, while U.S. and Mexican officials sought to reassure international investors that the situation was under control.

The government in Mexico City said that it would begin activating the \$53 billion rescue package next week to redeem \$2 billion worth of its dollar-linked Treasury bonds. It did so even before completing the formalities on the \$20 billion U.S. portion of the global bailout.

U.S. officials in Washington acknowledged that the redemption offer was part of an effort to restore confidence in world financial markets.

Officials said, meanwhile, that the U.S. Treasury was making "good progress" in talks aimed at freeing up the \$20 billion American portion of the \$53 billion international rescue package. The other components include \$17.8 billion of funds from the International Monetary Fund and \$10 billion of loans from the world's leading central banks.

Robert Rubin, the U.S. Treasury secretary, was meeting his Mexican counterpart, Guillermo Ortiz, on Thursday in an effort to reach agreement on the details of the rescue plan, which was unveiled on Jan. 31 by President Bill Clinton.

"We are continuing to make good progress with the Mexican authorities in working out the arrangements to implement the previously announced \$20 billion medium-term support package," a Treasury official said.

The decision by Mexico to draw on IMF and U.S. Treasury credit lines to redeem *tesobonos*, or dollar-linked Treasury bonds, followed high-level consultations with U.S. government officials Wednesday night. These consultations came just hours after a default on \$19.5 million of payments on commercial paper by Grupo Sider SA, a private Mexican company.

The Sider default — and the prospect of

See PESO, Page 10

Dollar Falls, Stocks Rise

The dollar fell Thursday in what analysts said was a fundamental reassessment of the currency. Exposure to Mexico's financial crisis and the belief that the U.S. central bank will not raise interest rates much further contributed to the dollar's decline (Page 11). Meanwhile, the Dow Jones industrial average edged up at the final bell to give U.S. stocks their second record close in a row (Page 13).



GRAF'S HAPPY RETURNS — Steffi Graf returning a shot to Martina Hingis in a Paris Open match Thursday. Graf won, 6-2, 6-3. Page 19.



Themba Masuku, left, of Swaziland and Alain Juppé, of France, speaking at their news conference on development aid problems in Brussels on Thursday.

EU's Aid to Third World Suddenly in Question

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Union abruptly canceled a meeting with the 70 ACP nations of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific on Thursday after negotiations to determine an aid package collapsed.

The move underscored Europe's lessening interest in its poor former colonies while faced with more immediate security needs and economic opportunities in Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean region.

The falling-out over aid also exposed a widening gap in the external priorities of the 15 EU member states. France, the traditional EU advocate for the so-called ACP countries, has pushed strongly to at least increase aid to keep pace with inflation, but Britain has insisted on slashing its contribution by one-third while Germany claims it can afford merely to keep spending steady in nominal terms.

Alain Juppé, the French foreign minister, who called off the meeting rather than make what he considered an insulting aid offer, said the unwillingness to keep up support for the Union's flagship foreign aid program posed a fundamental threat to efforts to develop a common foreign policy.

"There is no more European Union if we follow that logic," he said. Mr. Juppé pledged to redouble efforts to increase the EU aid offer by mid-April in order to sign a new trade and aid accord with the ACP countries in May.

For the ACP group, which includes many of the globe's most-improvised countries and which has seen aid from

the United States and other sources dry up, the failure to win a commitment from their biggest donor was a severe blow.

"Everyone is talking about market reforms and democratization," said Themba Masuku, the Swaziland economy minister who led the ACP bloc, "but just when we start to put in place a framework, we are left in the middle of the ocean without the resources to support the process we've embarked on."

In effect, the poor countries have been downgraded by Europe in the face of competition closer to home. The ACP countries received the lion's share of EU foreign aid in the early 1980s, but that dropped to 40 percent in 1993 and EU leaders since have committed themselves to big increases for Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.

The Union countries are just coming out of recession, and the budgets are going down to meet the deficit criteria for a single EU currency, said Hans-Friedrich von Pötz, state secretary for European affairs at Germany's Foreign Ministry.

France, which holds the rotating EU presidency and initially sought a sizable real increase in aid, pushed at an EU meeting Wednesday for a compromise of 13.3 billion European Currency Units (\$16.7 billion) for 1995 to 1999. That would be unchanged after inflation from the 10.9 billion ECU spent in the previous five years. Still, the French came up 1.5 billion ECU short.

The biggest problem was Britain, which said it planned to slash its contribution to 1.2 billion ECU from more than 1.7 billion.

The Unbeatable Balladur? Suddenly, It's Not So Sure

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — For the first time, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's regal progress to the presidency has started to seem less than inevitable.

Mr. Balladur remains the overwhelming favorite to win in the April and May elections. But in one of those moments that can seem to last forever in politics, his lead has suddenly started melting in the polls. That downturn is liable to accelerate after some mishaps that pointed to his potential vulnerabilities.

Mr. Balladur has positioned himself as a paternal figure, above the fray, but now

French voters can hope that he will be forced into the arena and tackle his opponents instead of ignoring them. That would break the frozen political landscape that has been dominated by the assumption that Mr. Balladur has an unbeatable lead.

The most intriguing possibility, French analysts said Thursday, is that the weakening of support for Mr. Balladur could revitalize the campaign of his main conservative rival, Jacques Chirac.

The leftist candidate, Lionel Jospin, faces the daunting problem of surmounting the unpopular legacy of 14 years of

mainly Socialist governance. Although Mr. Jospin has surged in the polls, he must contend with an unfavorable political climate in which two-thirds of French voters describe themselves as conservative.

The prime minister had been proceeding calmly to the nation's top job, but then questions about his lack on the vote emerged suddenly as his campaign image turned out to have problems, exposing him to resentment about the French government in general.

Even though he has run the government for only two years, in that time he has often had to compromise with François Mitterrand, the Socialist president elected 14 years ago, and Mr. Balladur is now beginning to be seen by some voters as lacking a vision of how France could make a new start.

These doubts have been reinforced by a series of events that raised questions about Mr. Balladur's nerve and even his generally unquestioned integrity.

In the space of a few days, he caved in to student demonstrators in an episode that recalled previous retreats in the face of social tensions and highlighted his potential problems with young voters.

He failed to dispel questions about a substantial monthly salary he received between 1988 and 1993 from a company whose privatization he facilitated when in

See FRANCE, Page 10

Iraq Is Restoring Mosques, But at What Cost to Shiites?

By John Lancaster
Washington Post Service

KARBALA, Iraq — This ancient city near the Euphrates River seems a strange setting for a tourist boom.

Its downtown was gutted during fighting between government troops and Shiite Muslim rebels in 1991. Because of a ban on airline service to Iraq, foreign visitors must drive here from Jordan or Iran. The journey can take days.

Nonetheless, Karbala these days is enjoying a modest influx of visitors from India, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, even Canada. Mostly middle-aged or elderly people on a once-in-a-lifetime journey, they arrive in grimy tour buses or overloaded passenger vehicles, putting up in Spartan hotels for as little as 75 cents a night.

They are religious pilgrims. They come to pray beneath the dazzling gold-leaf domes and minarets of the Hussein and Abbas mosques, shrines to the Prophet Mohammed's two grandsons and among the holiest sites in the branch of Islam known as Shiism.

Saddam Hussein's regime is eager to

showcase the bustling shrines at Karbala and nearby An Najaf, offering them as evidence of its success in stamping out the remnants of the brief, bloody Shiite rebellion that followed the Gulf War.

Shiite Muslims, who also dominate in neighboring Iran, constitute Iraq's largest religious group; Mr. Saddam is a Sunni Muslim, and most of his top lieutenants are Sunni or Christian.

But, as with everything in Iraq, the story is a bit more complicated than officialdom lets on.

Government-sponsored tours of Karbala, which is 97 kilometers (60 miles) southwest of Baghdad, and Basra, which is 452 kilometers (280 miles) southeast, revealed nothing to contradict statements in Baghdad that Mr. Saddam's forces are largely in control.

But the appearance of calm has been achieved at enormous cost to Iraqi Shiites and their heritage, according to exiled Shiites and reports by UN human rights monitors in Iraq.

They accuse the government of deporting and even murdering Shiite clerics in a continuing quest to gain control of religious sites.

See IRAQ, Page 10

Yeltsin Backs Chechen War But Admits To Problems

In Parliament Speech, Russian Leader Seems Steady, Though Stolid

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — In his first major speech since he ordered Russian troops into Chechnya, President Boris N. Yeltsin on Wednesday defended the invasion before Parliament.

But he acknowledged that change in the military had gone too slowly and that the army leadership was "unprepared." That was why, he said, there have been such heavy casualties and violations of human rights among civilians.

Still, Mr. Yeltsin named no names, dismissed no commanders for their "failures, setbacks and mistakes in command" and said he would draw no "rash" judgments. His aides said he would deliver another address about the military, perhaps in two months' time.

Nor, as many Western diplomats hoped, did Mr. Yeltsin make any offers of political negotiations to the leaders of Chechnya, where a 48-hour truce appears to be holding.

"The flames of an armed mutiny have not yet been put out in the Chechen republic and Russian soldiers fulfill their duty in extremely difficult conditions," Mr. Yeltsin said, asking deputies to stand to "honor the memory of our dead fellow countrymen."

In his second annual state of the nation address, televised nationwide on Thursday morning, Mr. Yeltsin ran through Russia's many difficulties in a steady monotone. At a moment of questions about his health and fondness for alcohol, Mr. Yeltsin, 64, strode deliberately but steadily to and from the Kremlin podium.

But there was little spontaneity in his hourlong address, and he rarely raised his eyes from his text. His speech, which was coolly received by deputies and interrupted by any applause, had many exhortations but little new policy.

Despite his plummeting popularity, Mr. Yeltsin did commit himself to holding elections on time as mandated in the constitution, with parliamentary elections scheduled for this December and a presidential vote in June 1996.

But if Mr. Yeltsin's intention was to renew support for him in Parliament, the speech was no great success. It had been written by a circle of liberal Yeltsin advisers but then edited by conservatives, and the ambivalence was clear.

Mr. Yeltsin recommitted himself to moves to a market economy and lower inflation, because Russians and Western agencies like the International Monetary Fund "expect this from us," not least as the price of a vital \$6.25 billion loan.

But Mr. Yeltsin also promised more

See YELTSIN, Page 10

AGENDA

House Votes to Curb Role in UN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite strong opposition from President Bill Clinton, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a bill Thursday that would cut back U.S. participation in United Nations peacekeeping and support early expansion of NATO.

A counterpart bill now must be considered in the Senate, where one has yet to be proposed. President Clinton has made it clear that he almost certainly would veto the measure if it passed the Senate in the form passed by the House.

A plan to slash foreign spending. Page 2.

U.S. Opens Inquiry of Commerce Secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has opened a preliminary criminal investigation of Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown's personal financial dealings.

The decision, announced Thursday by Attorney General Janet Reno, means the department has found specific and credible allegations that Mr. Brown may have committed a felony.

PAGE TWO

Affirmative Action on Trial

EUROPE

Italy Checks a Mafia Link

THE AMERICAS

3 Presidents Loose on the Links

INTERNATIONAL

Israel Relaxes Border Policy

ASIA

UN Says Afghan Chief to Quit

BUSINESS/FINANCE

The Other Saatchi Leaves

International Classified Page 4.

Editorial Page 6, 7. Sports Pages 19. Books Page 7. Crossword Page 19.

Women and Men DO Think Differently, Science Says

By Gina Kolata
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Using a powerful new method for glimpsing the brain in action, researchers have found the first definitive evidence that men and women use their brains differently.

The investigators, who were seeking the basis of reading disorders, asked what areas of the brain were used by readers in the first step in the process of sounding out words. To their astonishment, they discovered that men use a minute area in the left side of the brain while women use areas in both sides.

Dr. Sally E. Shaywitz, a behavioral scientist at the Yale University School of Medicine who was a principal author of the study, said that as far as she knew, this was the first time that anyone had been able to demonstrate anything "functionally different" between the brains of men and women.

The new findings follow on a rich body of research looking for sexual differences in the brain. Psychologists have found that women do better on certain tests, like those measuring verbal speed, and that men do better on other tasks, like imagining what an object would look like if it were rotated.

Neurologists have found that women seem to recover better from strokes in the left hemisphere, where language abilities are thought to be situated. Autopsy studies have shown that male brains are more asymmetrical than female brains.

But these previous studies were indirect. The psychological studies could not prove

that it was nature, not nurture, that elicited the differences. The anatomical studies could not show what the actual effects of the brain differences were.

But the new study showed actual differences in the parts of the brain used when men and women were thinking, and coming up with the same answers.

Dr. Shaywitz said the finding meant that "the brain is a lot more complicated than people envisioned." But it does not say

See BRAIN, Page 10

Newsstand Prices

Andorra.....9.00 FF	Luxembourg...60 L Fr
Antilles.....1.120 FF	Morocco.....12 Dh
Cameroon 1,400 CFA	Qatar.....8.00 Riels
Egypt.....E.P. 5000	Réunion.....11.20 FF
France.....9.00 FF	Saudi Arabia...9.00 R.
Gabon.....960 CFA	Senegal.....250 CFA
Greece.....350 Dr.	Spain.....1,000 Ptas
Italy.....2,600 Lire	Turkey.....T.L. 45,000
Ivory Coast 1120 CFA	Turkey.....T.L. 45,000
Jordan.....1 JD	U.A.E.....8.50 Dirh
Lebanon.....US\$ 1.50	U.S. Mail (Eur.)...\$1.10

Dow Jones

Up 1.35	Down 0.07%
3987.52	109.95
The Dollar	Thurs. close
New York	1.489
London	1.5095
Paris	1.5785
Frankfurt	1.561
Geneva	97.405
Basel	98.35
FF	5.175
DM	5.2385

A Gathering Storm/Civil Rights and Affirmative Action

A War Over Preferences
Scholars Aim to Ax California's ProgramsBy B. Drummond Ayres Jr.
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — An effort by two San Francisco-area academics to eliminate affirmative-action programs in California has set off a debate over civil rights that is rapidly spreading across the country and threatens to be one of the most divisive national dialogues in years.

The two professors, Glynn Custred and Thomas Wood, who describe themselves as "staunch conservatives," want the issue of affirmative action put to a popular vote sometime in 1996. It is an approach that poll takers and political analysts say has the best chance yet of overturning affirmative-action laws in the state.

Mr. Custred, an anthropology professor at California State University in Hayward, said: "Affirmative action has been losing steam with the general public, and we think we've hit upon the sure way to finally reverse it and restore true color-blind fairness in the United States."

To get their proposal on the California ballot, Mr. Custred, Mr. Wood and their supporters will need to gather about a million signatures on petitions. That effort, which the two men say will begin in a matter of weeks, could cost upward of a million dollars.

Few political experts doubt that they will easily exceed both requirements.

"I think the climate is now such that they'll just blitz through," said Mervin Field, the dean of California poll takers who runs the Field Poll.

Recent polls show that the effort may well succeed, not just in California, but also in other states. It is an approach that already is injecting itself into the 1996 presidential race and one that is beginning to spark some ugly exchanges, increasingly between old friends and political allies, especially Democrats.

Even some Democrats with impeccable liberal credentials are beginning to break with their party's traditional hard-line support for affirmative action. They suggest that the system of extending special preferences based on such factors as race and sex has outlived its usefulness and should be abandoned or changed so that preferences are extended only on the basis of economic need.

For Republicans, many who once hesitated to publicly criticize affirmative action are now openly attacking it, sensing a change in the national political climate, particularly since the November 1994 elections.

Susan Estrich, a California law professor and veteran Democratic campaign strategist, sees political danger for anyone who continues to argue for maintaining affirmative-action policies.

"For all its good intentions, affirmative action was never meant to be permanent, and now is truly the time to move on to some other approach," she said.

"You can try to paint Republican opponents as having been captured by the far right and the like, but that's not going to make the Democratic Party the majority party again. In fact, there's a bad potential for this issue to drive a wedge right through the Democratic Party, if it doesn't yield some."

To Mr. Custred and Mr. Wood, a former philosophy professor who now heads the California Association of Scholars, a Berkeley-

based group of conservative educators, affirmative action is a corruption of the civil rights laws passed in the 1960s.

"The specific goal of those laws was to prohibit discrimination by reason of color, race, gender, religion and national origin," Mr. Custred said. "The laws rightly encourage reaching out, but it's a perversion to say they permit the hiring of people by quota or the admission of students without regard to academic merit or the letting of contracts according to race-based formulas."

Federal, state and local governments, agencies and schools, and thousands of private companies and groups across the country rely on affirmative action as a tool of redress when hiring, promoting, awarding contracts or admitting students.

The proposed referendum that the professors hope to get on the California ballot next year reads:

"Neither the state of California nor any of its political subdivisions or agents shall use race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin as a criterion for either discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group in the operation of the state's system of public employment, public education or public contracting."

Mr. Custred and Mr. Wood plan to first raise enough money and gather enough signatures to put the affirmative-action question on the ballot possibly during the March 1996 primary, but more likely during the November 1996 general election.

Then they plan to encourage ballot efforts in other states and, if their movement spreads, eventually pressure Congress to act.

If they succeed, next year's presidential hopefuls will have to adjust accordingly when they come looking for votes in California, the so-called must-win state. On the Democratic side, the adjustment will require special care, given the party's liberal history on civil rights.

The Custred-Wood proposal, which its authors call the California Civil Rights Initiative, has been labeled "Son of 187," a reference to Proposition 187, the immigration-control measure that California voters passed overwhelmingly on Election Day 1994 but that the courts have mostly put on hold, citing concern over its constitutionality.

Recent opinion polls indicate that dissatisfaction with affirmative action has grown to the point where about two of three Americans have serious doubts about the fairness of the concept, particularly when remedial devices like hiring quotas and contract set-asides are used.

The Republican landslide in last fall's elections was attributed in part to pent-up anger in white men, many of whom told poll takers that they were fed up with affirmative action, whether mandated by law or voluntary.

"Count me among those angry men," Mr. Wood said. "I know the sting of affirmative action. I was once passed over for a teaching job because, I was told privately, I was white and male. It didn't count that I was the most qualified. Well, we're going to put a stop to this. The worm has turned."

WARE of the polls, civil rights leaders fear the worst. And the worst may be that many of their followers are beginning to drift away as affirmative action becomes more and more controversial.

One of the nation's leading black civil



Mr. Custred, foreground, and Mr. Woods want affirmative action put to a vote.

'For all its good intentions, affirmative action was never meant to be permanent, and now is truly the time to move on to some other approach.'

Susan Estrich, a California law professor

rights advocates, the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, already has traveled to California to voice opposition to the Custred-Wood proposal and to any other retreat on affirmative action. He called for a "register and resist" voter campaign and warned of "poisonous" setbacks for civil rights.

Then, noting that Governor Pete Wilson, a potential Republican presidential candidate next year, had offered some kind words for the Custred-Wood initiative, Mr. Jackson gave some indication of just how sharp and contentious the coming debate on the issue could be.

"Pete Wilson is like unto George Wallace of Alabama," Mr. Jackson said. "He wants to stand in front of the schoolhouse door."

In Washington and elsewhere on the national political scene, members of Congress and prospective 1996 presidential candidates are scrambling for position, some eager to run with the issue, others not sure whether to plunge into the coming fracas or to flee headlong from it.

Both President Bill Clinton, who has supported affirmative action, and the new Republican leaders on Capitol Hill, most of whom have long held doubts about it, have assigned aides to study possible approaches

and alternatives. Among suggested options: Replacing race-based and sex-based quotas with quotas based on economic need, as measured by income.

In the California capital, Sacramento, some Democratic legislators also have begun to study alternative approaches to affirmative action, with an eye toward taking the issue away from Republicans.

Rally Denounces Racist Fliers

About 200 students and faculty members at the University of California at Berkeley rallied Wednesday to denounce the distribution of fliers that attacked affirmative action by using derogatory and racist terms. The Associated Press reported.

The fliers, placed in the mailboxes of 15 minority students at the Boalt Hall Law School, were discovered Saturday.

"Reject you crybaby niggers. It's affirmative-action month," the flier said in part. "When I see you in class it bugs the hell out of me because you're taking the seat of someone qualified."

The university's chancellor, Chang-Lin Tien, offered support to the students at the rally and promised to try to discover who was responsible.

Republicans Float
Proposal to Slash
Foreign SpendingBy Eric Pianin
and Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A Senate Budget Committee draft report proposes terminating a wide range of U.S. peacekeeping, international lending and arms control programs, and phasing out foreign aid to Russia, other former Soviet republics, Ireland, Turkey, Greece and Cyprus over five years.

The two-page summary, prepared by committee aides, offers a window on Republican thinking that one way to achieve a balanced budget by the turn of the century is through across-the-board reductions in U.S. involvement overseas.

Budget Committee aides emphasized that the document was still evolving and had not been approved by either the committee chairman, Pete V. Domenici, Republican of New Mexico, or other members. But the proposal has already been distributed to some officials at the State Department and the Agency for International Development, who said they took it seriously as a statement of Republican intentions.

"It really is no longer rhetoric," an official said. "These are serious proposals."

The document reflects the widespread view in the new Republican-controlled Congress that U.S. taxpayer dollars have been poorly spent on international adventures and ill-advised investments, a view that Clinton administration officials have denounced as isolationist.

The document proposes to cut overall spending on international affairs by about \$3.5 billion a year from about \$21 billion a year at present.

It proposes to end support for "multilateral development banks," which it did not identify but which provide loans to developing countries. It also calls for halting voluntary U.S. payments to most United Nations programs and ending support for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the Agency for International Development.

Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said this week that he was developing a plan that would merge both of those agencies, as well as the U.S. Information Agency, into the State Department. That plan has strong support in the Republican leadership and is reflected in the Budget Committee draft.

The document also targets for termination overseas broadcasting programs, including Voice of America and Radio Marti. It calls for cutbacks in spending for international ex-

change programs and for the Overseas Private Investment Corp., an agency that provides subsidized insurance to American corporations to make risky foreign investments.

The proposed broad assault on U.S. international activities is contrary to key components of the Clinton administration's foreign policy: multilateral approaches to global problems, direct aid to former Communist countries, and the use of U.S. government mechanisms to stimulate free markets abroad.

The Republican leaders "are trying to come up with a balanced budget by the year 2002," a Republican aide said, "and they're going to have to do those kinds of things in foreign aid and elsewhere in order to get there."

Senator Don Nickles, Republican of Oklahoma, a member of the Budget Committee, predicted that multilateral development banks would "come under a lot more scrutiny." Also, he said, "you'll probably see some Russian aid tied to a reduction in their aggression in Chechnya."

Senator Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, said, "I think it's kind of odd to say what's going to be cut out and what's not."

While many of the proposals carry significant foreign policy implications, foreign aid spending constitutes a small fraction of the overall budget. Republican leaders committed to reducing the deficit by the year 2002 will be forced to seek substantial reductions in entitlement programs and other domestic programs to achieve their goal.

Senator J. James Exon, Democrat of Nebraska, the ranking Democrat on the Budget Committee, said the committee staff document suggests that Republicans have done far more in detailed long-term deficit reduction planning than they have acknowledged.

Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher, when asked at a Senate Budget Committee hearing about U.S. aid to former Soviet republics, said that aid to Russia was already slated to be reduced by \$100 million in the current year. Other newly independent states "such as Ukraine and Kazakhstan deserve and urgently need our assistance," he said.

The Republican proposal would also phase out aid to Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, whose cooperation the administration is seeking on a variety of issues, and to Ireland. Mr. Clinton has used the lure of potential increases in U.S. contributions to an Irish development fund as a bargaining chip to encourage peace negotiations in Northern Ireland.

Democrats Get Help as House Kills Missile Defense System

By Dana Priest
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The House has voted to knock out a symbolically important portion of a Republican defense bill by rejecting a provision to deploy a "Star Wars"-like anti-missile defense system that Pentagon officials asserted was unnecessary and expensive.

On a 218-to-212 vote, the Democratic amendment to the House National Security Revitalization Act passed late Wednesday with support from 24 Republicans, including leading deficit hawks.

The original provision was cherished by former Cold Warriors who now head key defense committees, but it was roundly criticized by President Bill Clinton and Defense Secretary William J. Perry, who began a full-

court press against the entire bill last week.

After the vote, Republican leaders immediately tried to rein in the two dozen Republicans who crossed party lines in the first vote against one of the basic items in the Republican "Contract With America."

"The bill is slipping away from you," warned Representative Toby Roth, Republican of Wisconsin. "You're going to end up with cotton candy."

The missile defense provision is part of a bill that calls generally for a more robust defense.

Fire on British Jetliner
Forces Landing in Iran

TEHRAN — A British Airways jumbo jet with 405 passengers made an emergency landing in Tehran after a fire broke out on board, an Iranian newspaper said Thursday.

The fire started in the hold of the Boeing 747 as it flew over Iran on its way from New Delhi to London early Wednesday, the daily Kayhan said. The pilot made an emergency landing at Tehran-Mehrabad airport, where the passengers and crew were evacuated.

without outlining specific ways to achieve it. The bill would place some restrictions on financing and participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations, but leave the president several ways to sidestep them. It also calls for extending membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to several former East Bloc countries, but lacks a specific timetable.

That bill would have required

The House plans to vote on the bill Thursday. But its prospects for becoming law are bleak because there is no companion legislation in the Senate. But Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, the majority leader, has introduced legislation to restrict peacekeeping operations that is similar to the provisions in the House bill.

That bill would have required

the deployment of a system to defend the United States against missile attacks from abroad "at the earliest practical date," and would have forced the defense secretary to submit a deployment plan to Congress within 60 days.

But the amendment, sponsored by Representative John McK. Spratt Jr., Democrat of South Carolina and a leading

authority on missile defense systems, gives a much lower priority to the kind of system favored by Republicans and instructs the Pentagon only to "develop options for deployment" once such a system is fully tested.

The amendment also says that such a defense system should be ground-based rather than space-based.

French Try to Assuage Islanders Over Nuclear Cargo

Agence France-Press

TOKYO — Officials of a French company that reprocessed nuclear waste said Thursday that the cargo of radioactive material it is returning would be safe on its journey to Tokyo.

The company was responding to concerns from several nations and to protests by the environmental group Greenpeace, which asked Japan on Wednesday to prevent the shipment. It is expected to depart from the French port of Cherbourg before the end of February. Greenpeace contends that it would endanger countries along

the route, which has yet to be revealed. Twenty-eight blocks of reprocessed nuclear waste are to be transported within a 112-ton structure aboard a British ship that has been designed for the purpose.

Gabriel Coignaud, president of Cogema Japan, an affiliate of the French reprocessing company Cogema, said, "We can solemnly affirm that the shipment poses no danger to people" in countries along the route.

"All possible precautions have been taken to prevent any

risk of an accident," he added in an interview.

The fears of certain countries "are totally irrational" because even if the ship caught fire or sank, he said, the risk of contamination for surrounding populations would be virtually zero.

Greenpeace does not think so, warning that such shipments carry "enormous risks to the environment and public health," and that an accident would result in sea and land contamination lasting "tens of thousands of years."

About 20 Pacific ocean coun-

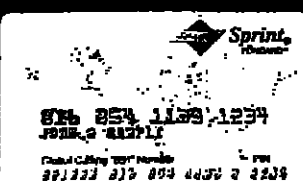
tries, from the Philippines to the tiny island republic of Nauru, have expressed concern; some said the ship would be barred from their territorial waters.

Cogema Japan said that the ship, whose departure is to be announced 24 to 48 hours in advance, will not stray into any nation's territorial waters, although it could enter the exclusive economic zones that extend 320 kilometers (200 miles) from some countries' coastlines.

The ship is double-hulled and will be tracked by satellite, the company said.

Harvey's Bar
"the original"
Just tell the taxi driver,
"Sank roo doe noo"
5, rue Daunou Paris (Opéra)
Tel: (1) 42.61.71.14

A SIMPLE
CURE FOR THE FEAR OF
FOREIGN PHONES.



To call, just dial the Access Number for the country you're visiting, and you'll reach an English-speaking Sprint Operator — at no extra charge. It's that easy.			
COUNTRIES	ACCESS NUMBERS	COUNTRIES	ACCESS NUMBERS
American Samoa	632-1000	Cyprus	080-900-01
Antigua (dedicated phone)	20	Czech Republic	0042-087-187
Antigua (any phone)	1-800-366-4461	Denmark	800-1-0877
Argentina	00-1-800-777-1111	Guatemala	1-800-777-1877
Armenia	8-10-155	Honduras	356-4777
Australia (Sydney)	1-800-551-140	India	0091-11-233-4777
Australia (Melbourne)	1-800-481-877	Indonesia	0062-21-233-4777
Austria	022-902-096	Israel	00972-3-551-100-3
Bahamas	0080-389-2111	Italy	800-777-1877
Bahrain	800-777	Japan	0081-3-551-100-3
Belarus	1-800-877-8000	Kazakhstan	007-33-4777
Belgium	0800-1004	Kenya	00254-1-233-4777
Bermuda	1-800-623-0877	Korea	0082-2-333-4777
Bhutan	000-8008	Kuwait	00965-1-233-4777
Bolivia	1-800-877-8000	Laos	00856-21-233-4777
Brazil	0080-1004	Latvia	00371-1-233-4777
Bulgaria	0080-1010	Lithuania	00370-1-233-4777
Cameroon	1-800-877-8000	Luxembourg	00352-41-233-4777
Canada	006-0217	Malaysia	0060-3-551-100-3
Chile	0056-2-233-4777	Mexico	0052-5-233-4777
China	0086-10-233-4777	Moldova	00373-1-233-4777
Colombia	0057-1-233-4777	Monaco	00377-1-233-4777
Costa Rica	00506-2-233-4777	Netherlands	0031-20-233-4777
Croatia	00385-1-233-4777	New Zealand	0064-9-233-4777
Cuba	0053-2-233-4777	Nicaragua	00502-2-233-4777
Czech Republic	0042-087-187	Norway	0047-22-233-4777
Dominican Republic	1-800-777-1111	Poland	0048-22-233-4777
Ecuador	356-4777	Portugal	00351-21-233-4777
El Salvador	00503-2-233-4777	Romania	0040-1-233-4777
Finland	00358-9-233-4777	Russia (Moscow)	007-495-233-4777
France	1-800-877-8000	Russia (St. Petersburg)	007-812-233-4777
Germany	0800-1004	Saudi Arabia	00966-11-233-4777
Greece	0030-210-233-4777	Senegal	00221-1-233-4777
Honduras	356-4777	Singapore	0065-4-233-4777
Hungary	0036-1-233-4777	South Africa	0027-11-233-4777
Iceland	00354-1-233-4777	Spain	0034-91-233-4777
India	0091-11-233-4777	Sweden	0046-8-233-4777
Indonesia	0062-21-233-4777	Switzerland	0041-1-233-4777
Iran	0098-21-233-4777	Taiwan	00886-2-233-4777
Ireland	00353-1-233-4777	Tel Aviv	00972-3-551-100-3
Israel	00972-3-551-100-3	Turkey	0090-312-233-4777
Italy	800-777-1877	U.S. Virgin Islands	00800-447-8000
Japan	0081-3-551-100-3	Ukraine	00380-4-233-4777
Kazakhstan	007-33-4777	United Arab Emirates	00971-2-233-4777
Kenya	00254-1-233-4777	United Kingdom (BT)	0044-161-233-4777
Korea	0082-2-333-4777	United Kingdom (Globe)	0044-161-233-4777
Kuwait	00965-1-233-4777	Vietnam City	0084-4-233-4777
Laos	00856-21-233-4777	Vietnam Hanoi	0084-4-233-4777
Latvia	00371-1-233-4777	Yemen	00967-1-233-4777
Lithuania	00370-1-233-4777	Zambia	00260-21-233-4777
Luxembourg	00352-41-233-4777	Zimbabwe	00263-2-233-4777
Malaysia	0060-3-551-100-3		
Mexico	0052-5-233-4777		
Moldova	00373-1-233-4777		
Monaco	00377-1-233-4777		
Netherlands	0031-20-233-4777		
New Zealand	0064-9-233-4777		
Nicaragua	00502-2-233-4777		
Norway	0047-22-233-4777		
Poland	0048-22-233-4777		
Portugal	00351-21-233-4777		
Romania	0040-1-233-4777		
Russia (Moscow)	007-495-233-4777		
Russia (St. Petersburg)	007-812-233-4777		
Saudi Arabia	00966-11-233-4777		
Senegal	00221-1-233-4777		
Singapore	0065-4-233-4777		
South Africa	0027-11-233-4777		
Spain	0034-91-233-4777		
Sweden	0046-8-233-4777		
Switzerland	0041-1-233-4777		
Taiwan	00886-2-233-4777		
Tel Aviv	00972-3-551-100-3		
Turkey	0090-312-233-4777		
U.S. Virgin Islands	00800-447-8000		
Ukraine	00380-4-233-4777		
United Arab Emirates	00971-2-233-4777		
United Kingdom (BT)	0044-161-233-4777		
United Kingdom (Globe)	0044-161-233-4777		
Vietnam City	0084-4-233-4777		
Vietnam Hanoi	0084-4-233-4777		
Yemen	00967-1-233-4777		
Zambia	00260-21-233-4777		
Zimbabwe	00263-2-233-4777		

Sprint.
To order a free FONCARD
CALL COLLECT TO THE U.S.
402-390-9083

سكرا من الاصل

THE AMERICAS

Fore! A Presidential Trio Wreaks Havoc on the Links

By John F. Harris
Washington Post Service

PALM SPRINGS, California — When President Bill Clinton and two of his Republican predecessors took to the links, not a soul at the Indian Wells Country Club was safe. With golf balls flying every which way, an outing that had been billed as historic turned out to be downright harrowing.

"Fore!" bellowed former President Gerald R. Ford as his first drive veered into the crowd.

You could say that again. And indeed it was said — again and again, all day long, as they rounded the course with the comedian Bob Hope on Wednesday as part of the 36th annual Bob Hope Chrysler Classic — the celebrity part, of course, not the professional one.

They said it when Mr. Clinton sent a shot flying into a wealthy resident's back yard. And Norma Earley wished they had said it a little louder after a ball hit by former President George Bush bounced off a tree and clocked her hard on the bridge of the nose.

Mr. Bush came over to apologize. Ms. Earley, prostrate in the rough, assured him she was fine. So Mr. Bush pushed on while medics wiped off the blood on Ms. Earley's face.

Later in the game, Mr. Bush hit another spectator, John C. Rynd, in the calf; he was not injured. Mr. Ford, to no one's surprise, claimed a casualty of his own, nicking the finger of Geraldine Grommesch and drawing blood.

So the day was not graceful in every respect, but it did provide a remarkable view of the mysterious unifying effect of the presidency.



President Bill Clinton, left, and Gerald R. Ford watching as a golf ball hit by Mr. Ford hit a cart instead of grass.

Who knows what sort of uses Mr. Bush was secretly imagining for his golf clubs as he rounded the course with the man who cut short his career. On the surface at least, everything was chummy.

They posed for smiling photographs with the famed golfer Arnold Palmer. They gave each other "gimme" putts when their balls lay close to the hole. They

joshed about the erratic nature of their games.

It was hard to remember that Mr. Bush once sought re-election by attacking Mr. Clinton's character, and Mr. Clinton that same year denied him victory in part by arguing Mr. Bush was a hard-headed reactionary with no vision.

But why dwell on the past? Wednesday, they were three pals who all belong to the same exclusive club. Only Jimmy

Carter, busy announcing another peace mission to Haiti, was not around to enjoy the brilliant sun that shone on one of the nation's most opulent settings.

There was another source of radiance — a list of celebrities that included the actor Clint Eastwood and a former football star, Lawrence Taylor. Joining Mr. Bush, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Ford and Mr. Hope to make up a fiveosome for the golf game was a pro player, Scott Hoch.

Mr. Clinton was the most garrulous of the group, waving often to the crowd and keeping up a running commentary on his game.

Compared to the more reserved Mr. Ford and Mr. Bush, the effect was as if 48-year-old Mr. Clinton were the brash new member of a starchy country club.

Mr. Bush seemed a gauzy distant figure — plainly still a vigorous man at 70 but more se-

POLITICAL NOTES

Commentator Setting Up 1996 Bid

WASHINGTON — Patrick J. Buchanan, the conservative television commentator who challenged President George Bush in the 1992 Republican primaries, plans to take his first formal step toward another candidacy by filing his intentions to form a presidential exploratory committee.

The Republican's entry into the 1996 campaign could result in sharp debate within the party over issues ranging from abortion and immigration to foreign trade and foreign policy. In a statement issued by his committee, Mr. Buchanan attacked President Bill Clinton's Mexico bailout plan as a "rip-off of the taxpayers" and cited his opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade as examples of what he would battle against. (NYT)

Panel Passes Welfare Bill Bitterly

WASHINGTON — A congressional subcommittee has approved sweeping legislation to overhaul the nation's welfare programs as Republicans and Democrats angrily accused each other of perpetuating poverty.

The action was the first big step by the new Congress to pare back the social welfare programs established over 60 years.

The welfare bill, a keystone of the Republican legislative agenda, was approved by the House Ways and Means subcommittee on human resources by a party-line vote of 8 to 5. The bill would consolidate several dozen programs, including Aid to Families With Dependent Children, and turn them over to the states with lump sums of money, or block grants. It would also cut off cash assistance to tens of thousands of poor children with physical or mental disabilities.

The measure, which is likely to reach the House floor next month, would outlaw the use of federal money for cash assistance to unmarried mothers under the age of 18.

Harold E. Ford, Democrat of Tennessee, touched off the partisan fireworks Wednesday when he denounced the bill as "mean-spirited and shortsighted." He said it punished "children for the mistakes of their parents." (NYT)

Committee Nears Gingrich Inquiry

WASHINGTON — As the speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, denounced his Democratic critics, saying they had made spurious charges of misconduct against him, the ethics committee said it was close to agreeing on a procedure for investigating those accusations.

Members of the bipartisan panel said they had yet to make a critical decision in the inquiry: whether to hire an outside counsel to investigate the Georgia Republican's finances and conduct.

The head of the committee, Nancy L. Johnson, Republican of Connecticut, said members "discussed all procedural options and agreed on those we felt would enable us to move forward on a bipartisan basis."

She said the committee had so far held two amicable and thorough discussions of Mr. Gingrich's case, something "that is no mean feat at this point."

The man Mr. Gingrich defeated in November, Ben Jones, has charged that a college course the speaker taught, politically oriented and improperly financed with tax-exempt funds, he also has accused Mr. Gingrich of breaking House rules by accepting a lucrative book contract with a publishing house owned by the media mogul Rupert Murdoch. (NYT)

Historians Fault Possible Nominee

WASHINGTON — Word that the White House is considering appointing a former Kansas governor as national archivist has prompted protests from historians and archivists who say he lacks the credentials needed for the job.

They also complain that choosing John W. Carlin, who helped the 1992 Clinton campaign, could politicize the job.

White House sources have said that Mr. Carlin was among the top choices to head the National Archives and Records Administration. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Mr. Buchanan, on what he called Republican acquiescence to "world government": "This is politics as usual, and the United States will not survive politics as usual." (LAT)

FBI Arrests Suspect In Computer Spree

By John Markoff
New York Times Service

RALEIGH, North Carolina — After a search of more than two years, a team of FBI agents have captured a 31-year-old computer expert accused of a long crime spree that includes the theft of thousands of data files and at least 20,000 credit card numbers from computer systems around the nation.

The arrest on Wednesday of Kevin D. Mitnick, one of the most wanted computer criminals, followed a 24-hour stake-out of a Raleigh apartment building here.

A convicted computer felon on the run from federal law enforcement officials since November 1992, Mr. Mitnick has used his sophisticated skills over the years to pry into many of the nation's telephone and cellular telephone networks and vandalize government, corporate and university computer systems.

Most recently, he had become a suspect in a rash of break-ins on the global Internet computer network.

"He was clearly the most wanted computer hacker in the world," said Kent Walker, an assistant U.S. attorney in San

Francisco who helped coordinate the investigation. "He allegedly had access to corporate trade secrets worth billions of dollars. He was a very big threat."

But federal officials say Mr. Mitnick's confidence in his hacking skills may have been his undoing. On Christmas Day, he broke into the home computer of a highly skilled computer security expert, Tsutomu Shimomura, 30, a researcher at the federally financed San Diego Supercomputer Center.

Mr. Shimomura then made a crusade of tracking down the intruder, an obsession that led to Wednesday's arrest here by FBI agents.

Mr. Mitnick, already wanted in California for a federal parole violation, was charged Wednesday with two federal crimes. The first, illegal use of a telephone access device, is punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The second charge, computer fraud, carries potential penalties of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Federal prosecutors said they were considering additional charges related to Mr. Mitnick's reported Internet spree.

Carter to Help Haiti in Setting Parliamentary Vote

Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Former President Jimmy Carter, hoping to build on his success in helping to negotiate the return of Haiti's elected president, will go to Haiti this month to lend support to the often-postponed parliamentary elections there.

"We will explore ways in which we might be helpful in reinforcing a free and fair electoral process," he said Wednesday.

Parliamentary elections, initially scheduled for late last year, are now expected in April or May. An election to choose a successor to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is expected late this year.

Mr. Carter will be accompanied on his Feb. 23 to 26 trip by Senator Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, and the retired head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin L. Powell. Both were members of his delegation in September.

When he was last in Haiti, in September, Mr. Carter negotiated the deal that cleared the way for Mr. Aristide, the only freely elected chief executive in Haiti's 200-year history, to regain the office he lost in a coup three years earlier.

What the Police Told Simpson

Officer Says Defendant Didn't Asked How Ex-Wife Died

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — O. J. Simpson said "Oh my God, she's dead" and became extremely upset when a detective told him of his former wife's death, but Mr. Simpson did not ask how, when or where she had died, the detective testified Thursday.

The detective, Ronald Phillips, said he was in Mr. Simpson's kitchen when he made the call to Mr. Simpson's hotel in Chicago the morning after the June 12 murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald L. Goldman. He said the call lasted about five minutes.

"I asked if Mr. Simpson was registered at that hotel. Shortly thereafter a male voice that I recognized as Mr. Simpson answered the phone," Mr. Phillips said. "I asked him, 'Is this O.J. Simpson?'"

"And he said, 'Yes, who is this?'"

Mr. Phillips said he introduced himself and said, "I have some bad news for you: Your ex-wife Nicole Simpson has been killed."

He said Mr. Simpson replied: "Oh my God, Nicole is killed. Oh my God, she's dead." And then he got very upset on the

telephone. He said he tried to calm Mr. Simpson down. Prosecutors say Mr. Simpson killed Mrs. Simpson and Mr. Goldman outside her condominium before leaving for his trip to Chicago. In a line of questioning that was allowed over defense objections, Mr. Phillips said he never told Mr. Simpson his ex-wife had been murdered and Mr. Simpson never asked.

"Did Mr. Simpson ask you how she was killed?" asked Deputy District Attorney Marcia Clark.

"No," Mr. Phillips said. "Did he ask you when she was killed?"

"No," Mr. Phillips said. "Did he ask you where it had occurred?"

"No," Mr. Phillips said after he finished talking to Mr. Simpson, he handed the phone to Mr. Simpson's daughter Arnetta.

Mr. Phillips said he was then led to the back of a guest house by another detective, Mark Fuhrman.

He said Mr. Fuhrman "pointed out an object to me" — a dark glove lying in leaves on a walkway.

"Did you think that was significant, that glove?" asked Ms. Clark.

Mr. Phillips said yes, because "it looked like it was also the same type of glove we had seen" at the crime scene.

Authorities have argued that the glove was the mate of one found near the bodies.

Meanwhile, the defense disclosed that a prime witness — a maid who lived next door to Mr. Simpson — appears to have gone to El Salvador. The maid, Rosa Lopez, had told defense attorneys that she saw Mr. Simpson's white Ford Bronco in the street outside his estate at the time of the killings.

Canada Leader's Son Surrenders to Police

The Associated Press

YELLOWKNIFE, Northwest Territories — The adopted son of Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada has surrendered to the police, a day after a court upheld his conviction on a sexual assault charge.

Michel Chretien turned himself in to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who turned him over to corrections officials

Wednesday afternoon. He had been staying with his mother in Yellowknife pending the decision on his appeal.

On Tuesday, the Quebec Court of Appeal rejected his appeal of a 1992 sexual assault conviction. Unless he appeals to the Supreme Court of Canada, he faces a three-year prison sentence.

At the time of the incident, contended that the woman who had made the accusation had agreed to have sex with him.

For investment information
Read THE MONEY REPORT
every Saturday in the HT

Mexico Proclaims Rebel Rout

The Associated Press

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico — After a five-day military thrust, the government says it has regained control of the remote jungle region in southern Mexico that Indian rebels had held for the last year.

Leaders of the rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army remain at large, however, along with their fighters and thousands of Indian peasant supporters.

Uncertainty over the situation in Chiapas state contributed to another drop in Mexico's stock market and currency Thursday.

"Five days after the start of the operation, order and legality has been re-established in the region," Interior Secretary Esteban Moctezuma said Wednesday night.

"Today, there is no Mexican territory supposedly controlled by a force other than those legitimately recognized in the nation," he said.

The rebels rose up Jan. 1, 1994, to demand better living conditions for Indian peasants in Chiapas, Mexico's poorest state, and fair elections. At least 145 people died before a Jan. 12 cease-fire last year halted fighting.

Troops were in dozens of remote villages

Thursday that had been held by the rebels since the uprising began. Many villages in the region were virtual ghost towns Wednesday.

Even pro-government peasants who remained were often wary, despite military efforts to win them over with offers of aid.

In the former rebel stronghold of Patituit, a soldier, speaking over a loudspeaker in the region's Tzeltal Indian tongue, offered handouts of food, medicine and medical care. But despite their poverty, only a few villagers emerged from hiding to pluck plastic bags of food.

President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon ordered troops into the region Feb. 9, ending a yearlong truce. He said he acted after discovering evidence that the rebels planned new attacks.

But he announced Tuesday that the troops would halt their advance in hopes of re-establishing peace contacts. Mr. Zedillo sent the legislature a proposal Wednesday to grant amnesty to rebels who disarm.

"It is important," he said, "to reiterate the government's belief that the solution to the Chiapas conflict is through dialogue and negotiation."

Away From Politics

• Four Army Rangers died from exposure and four were rescued after they waded through chilly, chest-deep swamp waters during training at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. The soldiers, whose names were not released, were in their ninth day of training. (AP)

• Governor George Pataki and legislative leaders have announced agreement on legislation to restore the death penalty in New York, making it the 38th state to revive capital punishment. The last time New York state executed a criminal was in 1963. (NYT)

• A man convicted of killing a high school cafeteria supervisor during a 1983 robbery

was put to death by lethal injection in Huntsville, Texas. It was the state's sixth execution this year. "I forgive all of you and I hope God forgives all of you all," Billy Conn Gardner, 51, said in his final statement. (AP)

• The court-appointed lawyer for the Islamic militant Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, who is accused of masterminding the World Trade Center bombing, said in New York that he was bowing out of the case because of a potential conflict of interest. When pressed on whether he was leaving the case because he is Jewish, Avraham Moskowitz said: "That's a fair statement." (Reuters)

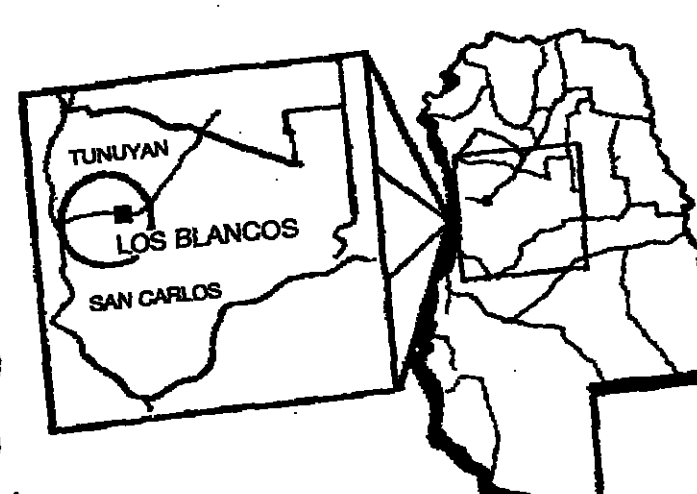
WORKS WORKS WORKS WORKS WORKS

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR BIDS

FOR THE HYDROELECTRIC CONCESSION OF UPSTREAM RIO TUNUYAN

LOS BLANCOS



1) The government of the province of Mendoza calls the private investors for the concession to manage the waters of the Tunuyan River, upstream of the Valle del Uco Dam, for the use of hydroelectric generation without interfering with irrigation installations.

2) Interested parties may obtain additional information, inspect or purchase the Bid Document at the Ministry of Public Works and Services of the province of Mendoza, At Peltier Av. with no number, 7 floor, Government House, 492642/492645/492621. Fax: 061-292119 (MOS) and 061-240385 (Government of the Province of Mendoza, Presidential network).

The Bid Document may also be inspected at the House of Mendoza at Av. Callao 445, Federal Capital, Argentine Republic telephone number: 49-8296 and 40-7301.

3) Cost of the Bid Document: \$1,000 (One thousand pesos)

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SERVICES

GOVERNMENT OF MENDOZA.

WORKS WORKS WORKS WORKS WORKS

ASIA

Chinese Gambit: Seizing Spratly Reef Without a Fight

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — By occupying another of the atolls and reefs in the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea recently, Beijing evidently calculated that it can expand its presence in an area it regards as strategically important without provoking a military clash with neighboring states.

At the same time, China has exposed weaknesses in the diplomatic defenses of the United States and countries in Southeast Asia that are reluctant to confront Beijing for fear of making it more assertive, analysts say.

The Philippines, the country immediately challenged by the Chinese action, sent reinforcements Thursday into the trouble zone — but in doing so underlined its military impotence against a regional power of China's size and relative might.

The Philippine Air Force dispatched five aging F-5 fighters backed by four jet trainers and two helicopters, while the navy sent two additional ships.

This followed an order by President Fidel V. Ramos on Wednesday to strengthen forces in the area close to

Panganiban Reef, a part of the Spratly Islands claimed by the Philippines.

"Our entire force of F-5's has been sent there, five of them," said Colonel Felipe Gaerlan, an air force spokesman in Manila. "Unfortunately, they are the most advanced interceptors jets we have."

The previously unoccupied Panganiban atoll, also known as Mischief

NEWS ANALYSIS

Reef, is now under the control of Beijing after nine Chinese ships, several of them identified by the Philippine military as naval vessels, brought men and materials to build a series of structures on still.

The platforms at Panganiban are similar to garrisons that the Chinese have built on reefs elsewhere in the Spratlys. Aerial reconnaissance showed that some of the Chinese appeared to be soldiers, General Arturo Enrile, the chief of the Philippine armed forces, said Thursday.

Beijing maintains that the new facilities are to ensure the safety of Chinese fishermen working in the area.

Philippine officials say the reef

could be used as a naval anchorage and military base.

Manila has lodged a "strong diplomatic protest" with Beijing. But Philippine officials have made it clear that the country will not attempt to dislodge the Chinese by force.

Diplomats said that Manila's diplomatic position was as weak as its military one, and that Beijing had moved to exploit that weakness.

Neither the United States, which has a mutual defense treaty with the Philippines, nor Manila's partners in the Association of the South East Asian Nations, have publicly supported the Philippine position.

All or part of the area of the Spratlys claimed by the Philippines is also claimed by Brunei and Malaysia, two of Manila's ASEAN partners, and by China, Vietnam and Taiwan.

At a meeting in Manila in 1992, foreign ministers of ASEAN issued a Declaration on the South China Sea that called on the Spratly claimants to exercise restraint and settle their disputes peacefully.

Vietnam subsequently endorsed the declaration, but Beijing gave it only qualified support. Vietnam, which is expected to join ASEAN in July, is the

only signatory to have commented publicly on the Chinese occupation of Panganiban Reef.

Hanoi on Thursday reiterated its claim to the Spratlys and the Paracel Islands farther north, which Chinese forces seized in 1974.

Ho Tan Lan, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi, said that disagreements over sovereignty in the South China Sea must be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

Michael Leifer, a professor of international relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science, said that the "inability of Southeast Asian states to adopt a common position over the South China Sea" could encourage Beijing to continue its policy of "creeping assertiveness" in the area.

He added that that assertiveness might be encouraged by other factors as well. For example, he said, the United States is seen by Asian countries to have "lost the will to uphold the regional balance of power. Russia does not count militarily in Southeast Asia, while Japan is viewed as a sleeping giant best left alone."

Washington, which is having its own

difficulties with China, has refused to take sides in the Spratly dispute.

The United States "takes no position on the merits of the competing claims in the South China Sea," but would view the use of force in resolving differences as a serious matter, said the state department spokeswoman, Christine Shelley.

Admiral Richard Macke, commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said that although China's latest action was "moving in a direction that I'm not comfortable with," dialogue "rather than isolation or confrontation" was still the best way to deal with Beijing.

Analysts said that the United States and a number of ASEAN countries were concerned that confronting China over the Spratlys now could strengthen hard-line nationalists at the expense of moderates in the factional maneuvering to succeed the ailing Deng Xiaoping.

Shannon Selin, a research associate in international relations at the University of British Columbia in Canada, said that problems with China could be exacerbated if skirmishing over Mr. Deng's succession led "one faction or another to court military support by taking a strong stand" on such issues as the South China Sea.

BRIEFLY ASIA



CLEANUP DETAIL — Two Marines, David Settles, standing, and Cory Klepp, polishing a memorial on Iwo Jima before the 50th anniversary of the island battle.

Fatal Fire Unleashes Taipei Anger

TAICHUNG, Taiwan — Taiwan's government lashed out at illegal public buildings Thursday after a fire killed 64 people.

Flames engulfed a three-story restaurant and karaoke complex in this central Taiwan city late Wednesday, trapping victims behind sealed windows and metal slats as they made for a single exit. Fire fighters said the dead lay heaped near doorways and windows, having choked on poisonous smoke.

Prime Minister Lien Chan said the complex was partly illegal and vowed that any government unit found to have acted wrongly would be punished. "To maintain public safety is the most important link in government policy," Mr. Lien was quoted by a government spokesman as telling Parliament.

The restaurant failed a safety check Monday because it had only one exit — the main entrance — and insufficient fire-fighting facilities.

Hong Kong Media Suit Dismissed

HONG KONG — In a ruling hailed as a victory for Hong Kong media, a court on Thursday threw out an official prosecution of a newspaper that published information about a land auction probe.

Judge Hugh Sinclair ruled that the prosecution had no case and that the action violated Hong Kong's bill of rights.

The Ming Pao daily and three of its editorial staff were prosecuted for revealing information about an investigation by the Independent Commission Against Corruption into allegations that major property developers rigged a government land auction.

The commission used Hong Kong's sweeping anti-corruption laws to prosecute the newspaper on the grounds that its reporting hindered the investigation.

China Leader Assails Corruption

BEIJING — In one of the strongest messages so far, Prime Minister Li Peng of China has warned that corruption and abuse of power have angered the public and could threaten Communist Party rule, official media reported Thursday.

Speaking to an anti-corruption conference sponsored by the State Council, China's cabinet, Mr. Li said Wednesday that bribery, embezzlement and other economic crimes, abuse of power, influence peddling and arbitrary enforcement of the laws had "aroused resentment among the broad masses of people because they are very serious."

Top leaders of the Communist Party have stepped up an anti-graft campaign in recent months, arguing that public resentment toward officials could erupt into mass protests.

With China's paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, reported to be in declining health, fears of unrest appear to have deepened.

Mr. Li said the fate of the party, and the nation, hinged on effectively dealing with the problem.

VOICES From Asia

Deng Rong, a daughter of Deng Xiaoping, on the senior leader of China: "Health permitting, he said he wanted to set foot in Hong Kong in 1997. He would be willing to go in a wheelchair. He still has this hope."

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia, on the dispute between the Philippines and China over islands in the South China Sea: "We continue to hope that this issue of overlapping claims of sovereignty can be peacefully resolved either bilaterally or multilaterally."

Nikhil Gupta, a trader with D.S. Purbodhas, on a decline in Indian stocks after news that state-owned banks had raised prime lending rates: "Though this was in the cards, these guys have really gone and done it."

Vietnam Is Criticized For Jailing 23 Buddhists

HANOI — The two most senior members of Vietnam's dissident Buddhist church were among 23 monks who were arrested since October, Amnesty International said in a report released Thursday.

The London-based human rights group added that many others have been questioned at least once. It said it believed that 36 monks in all had been detained, some since the late 1970s.

"These arrests and the events leading to them," the report said, "show the continuing repression of Buddhists in Vietnam and are in flagrant contradiction to the Vietnamese government's assertion of freedom of religion."

Amnesty International called for the "immediate and unconditional" release of Thich Huyen Quang and Thich Huynh Quang, two leaders of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam.

It said they were "detained solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and religion."

The monks were arrested between Oct. 29 and Jan. 4 following an attempt by the dissident church to organize an aid convoy from Ho Chi Minh City to help victims of flooding in the Mekong delta.

The arrests culminated with the detention of the church's No. 2, Mr. Do, on Dec. 29 and its patriarch, Mr. Quang, on Jan. 4.

According to the authorities, Mr. Do will be tried shortly for "violating Vietnamese law."

They have denied detaining the patriarch, saying only that he was transferred "at the request of the local clergy."

North Korea's Leader Turns 53, in Private

Reuters

TOKYO — North Korea's official media said a double rainbow rose over the country's most revered peak on Thursday to mark the 53rd birthday of Kim Jong Il and that baskets of flowers arrived in Pyongyang from around the world.

Absent, however, from the celebrations of what the official press agency KCNA called "the most auspicious common holiday of humankind" was the enigmatic leader himself.

There have been only a handful of reported sightings of Mr. Kim since the death in July of his father, Kim Il Sung, the nation's founder and autocratic leader for a half-century.

There had been speculation that Mr. Kim might on Thursday formally assume his father's posts of state president and leader of the Communist Party after the government decreed the birthday the nation's "greatest holiday."

But Mr. Kim did not even to attend the Communist Party's banquet in his honor. His long public absence and failure to formally assume positions of power seven months after the death of his father have kept alive speculation about his health and about a power struggle involving the country's powerful military.

The official press agency's birthday coverage, monitored in Tokyo, focused on international observations of the birthday and on mysterious natural events they said were linked to the holiday.

Birthday gifts included baskets from the Communist Party of China; Yasser Arafat, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization; and the Libyan leader, Colonel Moammar Gadhafi, the press agency said.

North Korean scientists were reported to have observed on Monday twin rainbows in the sky over Mount Paektu, revered as the country's most sacred mountain and named in official documents as Mr. Kim's birthplace.

Afghan Chief Quits, UN Envoy Reports

Militia Won't Join Interim Council

Reuters

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — A UN envoy said Thursday that President Burhanuddin Rabbani of Afghanistan would hand over power to an interim council in Kabul, the capital, in the next few days.

"I am expecting Rabbani to step down on Monday and transfer power," said the envoy, Mahmood Mestiri. "Of course there is always some uncertainty, but I am confident."

But he said that the crusading Islamic militia known as the Taleban had refused to be represented on the council.

"They said no because they don't want to be with parties they consider criminals," Mr. Mestiri said.

Mr. Mestiri, a former foreign minister of Tunisia, said he would fly to Kabul on Friday with some of the Afghan leaders who will make up the interim council of about 25 members.

The Taleban swept to the gates of Kabul this week, dislodging the forces of Gulbud-

din Hekmatyar, the main opposition leader, and dramatically changing the Afghan balance of power.

A Potent Fighting Force

John F. Burns of The New York Times reported earlier from Islamabad:

The Taleban, a force of self-professed Islamic purists and Afghan patriots, many of them former religious students, has taken control of more than 40 percent of Afghanistan.

It is now by far the most powerful force in the country.

The group has made big gains in 9 of Afghanistan's 30 provinces. Its drive has created the largest chunk of Afghanistan under united control since Soviet forces arrived in December 1979.

This week, a Taleban force halted barely 15 kilometers (nine miles) from Kabul and issued an ultimatum — renewed Thursday — that the city's defenders withdraw, an indication that Kabul is next in their sights.

Along the way, the Taleban has uprooted scores of mujahidin commanders, the self-styled "soldiers of God" who took to Afghanistan's wild valleys and mountains to fight the Soviet occupiers 15 years ago.

An explosion of popular resentment against the warlords has been as much a factor in the Taleban's success as its military might. Many Afghans say they see in the new force the salvation for their country that they have waited for so long.

The enthusiasm of many Afghans for the Taleban is not wholly shared by diplomats who have worked for years to secure an Afghan peace. As Taleban successes grew in recent weeks, the mujahidin leaders who led the resistance to the Russians suddenly found common ground that had eluded them for years.

Some of the group's strict Muslim beliefs could stir protest once the relief felt by people who have been freed of the warlords' repression begins to recede.

The minister said that a Communist revival remains a danger, even 30 years after communism was banned in Indonesia.

Thais Alert Border Unit To Burmese Incursions

BANGKOK — Thailand ordered security forces onto full alert Thursday along the frontier with Burma after a series of border violations by Burmese troops battling ethnic Karen rebels.

Thailand's military command ordered security forces to respond immediately to incursions by Burmese forces engaged in an offensive against a Karen base near the frontier, officials said.

Thailand's 3d Army commander, Surachet Dechawong, said that Burmese forces had asked Thai troops to withdraw from a district opposite the main Karen base at Kawmoora, inside Burma, but that the Thais refused.

On Wednesday, the Foreign Ministry summoned the Burmese ambassador to Bangkok, U Tin Winn, for the second time in two weeks to protest incidents along the border.

The Thai deputy foreign minister, Surin Pitsuwan, said, "We have expressed our serious concern that if the problem persists, then it would sour the atmosphere of good neighborly relations in the region, which all of us have tried to develop in the past few years."

The 1,000 rebel defenders are hemmed in by 3,000 Burmese troops. A river that forms the border between Thailand and Burma wraps around three sides of the horseshoe-shaped Kawmoora camp. The camp has been under almost continuous artillery shelling over the past three weeks.

With some Burmese shells falling on the Thai side of the frontier, the action has caused growing concern in Bangkok.

Burma would have to enter Thailand to completely surround the Karen camp and effectively end resistance.

Indonesian Official Says Jakarta Must Stop Exploiting the Poor

Agence France-Press

JAKARTA — A senior government minister has warned that exploitation of the poor and a growing economic disparity between classes are a threat to Indonesia's national security,

a newspaper reported Thursday.

The Minister of Defense and Security, General Edy Sudrajat, told a parliamentary hearing Wednesday that the danger came from the "excessive ex-

ploitation of the weak and powerless by the strong and affluent," the Jakarta Post reported.

He said the nation must contend with "the exploitation of workers who are paid meager and inhuman wages for their sweat, and the exploitation of poor farmers whose lands were procured for very small compensation."

Such exploitation has been the source of tension and conflict in the past, he said.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

TODAY'S REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE

Appears on Page 15

AGS INT'L MOVING

A.G.S. PARIS (33-1) 40 80 20 40

AUTO RENTALS

RENT FROM DENIS AUTO WEEKEND, FR 515

SPECIAL OFFER: 7 DAYS, FR 1,400

PARIS TEL: (1) 45 87 27 04

AUTOS TAX FREE

EURO + U.S.A. SPECIFICATIONS

E.A.C. QUOTE: Free Cars + ...

2500 cc. 1300 cc. 1600 cc. 1800 cc.

31.70.2559245 Fr. 35000 Fr. 32000

LEGAL SERVICES

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: \$9,900. Different countries at different prices. Guaranteed, fast and legal. Fax Consultation. 1-800-355-9615 USA.

31.70.2559245 Fr. 35000 Fr. 32000

DIVORCE FAST - \$495

Guaranteed by U.S. Embassy. Call/Fax: 714 958-895 USA.

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

PRESTON UNIVERSITY, USA

B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., Ph.D. programs. Home Study or On-Campus. Located by the Department of Education. 2727 Chalmers Ave., Suite 100, New York, NY 10027. Tel: 1-800-333-2750

TODAY'S HOLIDAYS & TRAVEL SECTION

Appears on Page 8

BUSINESS MESSAGE CENTER

PERSONALS

OVERSAIL I still love you LOUGHTY LAST JAVACHO De concavo WITH GILBERT, Grandchild, 15c, N4730 Ames, Norway

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention visitors from the U.S.!

READERS ARE ADVISED

that the International Herald Tribune cannot be held responsible for loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions attempted from advertisements which appear in our paper. It is a warning recommended by all responsible agencies before sending any money or entering into any binding commitment.

BUSINESS SERVICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

OFFSHORE BANKS

INSURANCE COMPANIES

COMPANIES & TRUSTS

ASSET PROTECTION

IMMIGRATION/PASSPORTS

TRADE - FINANCE

ASTON CORPORATE

TRUSTS LTD

19 Peel Road, Douglas, Isle of Man

Tel: 01 624 625991

Fax: 01 624 625136

London Tel: (171) 222 8866

Fax: (171) 222 1519

LARGE INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

SEKS FUNDS

PARTNERSHIPS

BANKS, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, INSURANCE COMPANIES AND ANY INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS

to finance the International Trade and Industrial Projects of their clients

Please address detailed proposals with references to Box 3901 International Herald Tribune 92521 Newbury Circle, Suite 100

INTERNATIONAL FINANCINGS AND CREDITS

FUNDS AVAILABLE

ALL BUSINESS PROJECTS OR AGENTS

Bank GUARANTEES OR OTHER ACCEPTABLE COLLATERAL

INTERNATIONAL LEASING

FOR FINANCING OF PURCHASE OF HEAVY INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT

Broker's commission guaranteed

FOR ANY INFORMATION

WALPRA & CO. FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA

Fax: 22 254 12 77

or 22 254 47 71

TELEX: 30077

Save on International Phone Calls

Save 50% and more compared to local phone companies. Even heavily taxed overseas. Check our rates for any country and see how you can start saving today.

Call us now and we'll call you right back!

Tel 1-206-284-8600

Fax 1-206-284-6666

Agents inquiries welcome!

AVAILABLE CAPITAL

Equity or debt financing. A program tailored to your corporate needs.

No front fees. Our fees are earned based strictly on performance. Immediate funding. Long term, fast rates, broker fees paid and protected.

For your proposal submit to: Fox East Investment Group, Inc. Attn: Financial Department Fax: (507) 64-5033 (Minnesota)

OFFSHORE BANK One A unincorporated bank in low free zone with offshore administrative services. US \$35,000 limited liability. immediate funding. Transfer. Call Canada (800) 942-6169 or Fax (416) 942-3179 or London 01 394 5159 or Fax 01 231 9928

\$20 Trillion Private Funds

\$50 Billion Capital Resources

- 2500+ Banks with all 150+ countries
- Home, phone, fax, investment type
- All funding stage
- Investors & Funds never in Mexico
- 60% are private, wealthy, ready to take risk
- 11 Banks, 2500+ Pages, 1700+ D.H.I.
- Agents Welcome (just order one set)

Delta Capital Corporation

Executive: G. G. G. G.

Saltwater, Suite 19, 28-28/1 Box 12, 10500 Beach Road, Thailand

Three Mile House, New Area, New York 1, Order, Fax: +64 2 2587347

FINDING PROBLEMS?

Wanted Capital - Equity Loans

Bankable guarantees to secure funding for medium to large projects

Bank's Commission Guaranteed

BANCOR OF ASIA

Commercial, industrial, export, import, financing, etc.

Fax: (63-2) 810-9284

Tel: (63-2) 894-5358

or 810-2570

INTERDEAN

FOR A FREE ESTIMATE CALL

PARIS (1) 39201400

YOUR OFFICE IN LONDON

Bond Street - Mail Phone, Fax, Telex

Call 44 21 499 9192 Fax 71 499 9197

OFFSHORE BANK One A unincorporated bank in low free zone with offshore administrative services. US \$35,000 limited liability. immediate funding. Transfer. Call Canada (800) 942-6169 or Fax (416) 942-3179 or London 01 394 5159 or Fax 01 231 9928

PROJECT/COMMERCIAL FUNDING

VENTURE CAPITAL AVAILABLE for International Clients. Anglo American Group Plc. Fax: +44 1924 201 277

BANK PURCHASE ORDERS

KTTS & Conditional SWIFTs available.

Shanghai, London, Sydney

Fax: Int'l +44 171 930 6624

Tel: Int'l +44 171 930 6676

سكرا من الامم

EUROPE

Italian Probe Links Andreotti to Mafia State Cites Compelling Proof Connecting Crime to Politics

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

ROME — Italy's anti-Mafia prosecutors say they have unearthed some of the most explosive evidence to date linking one of the country's major politicians of the postwar era to the most powerful ringleaders of organized crime in Sicily.

Nearly two years after they began exploring alleged connections between Mafia clans and political parties, investigators said they had gathered what they consider to be compelling proof of a long and secret relationship between the Cosa Nostra leadership and Giulio Andreotti, 76, the Christian Democrat leader who served as prime minister in seven governments.

Judicial sources said the evidence would shed new light on how the Christian Democrats exercised a virtual political monopoly in the south by trading favors with crime syndicates that could deliver large blocs of votes. The party, which dominated Italian politics for more than four decades, was dissolved last year in the aftermath of the massive corruption scandal involving kickbacks for state contracts.

Mr. Andreotti has denied all charges that he was linked in any way to the Mafia and said such claims were motivated by a desire by informants to exact revenge for the efforts by his governments to curb the Sicilian clans.

But judiciary officials said testimony from politicians close to Mr. Andreotti would demonstrate the extraordinary extent of cooperation between the Mafia and the Christian Democrats, who were led for many years by Mr. Andreotti.

The sources said the evidence would show how the Mafia's political clout eventually became so great that it heavily influenced the choice of judges and Christian Democratic political candidates — who in turn would ensure tolerance of Mafia activities and provide lenient treatment for criminal figures who were arrested.

Giuseppe Caselli, chief prosecutor in Palermo, said the evidence would be unveiled at a hearing Friday at which he will ask the examining magistrate to place Mr. Andreotti on trial for being a "man of honor" — the gangland euphemism for being a full member of the Mafia.

The hearing already has been postponed three times. Mr. Andreotti's lawyers said they probably would ask another adjournment for time to scrutinize the fresh evidence.

The prosecution has built much of its case, spelled out in more than 86,000 pages, on testimony from prominent Mafia turncoats such as Tommaso Buscetta, who have broken their vows of silence in return for leniency. Mr. Buscetta lives in the United States under an assumed identity but has returned on several occasions to testify against the Mafia.

But the most damaging information, judicial sources said, has come lately from Mr. Andreotti's own Sicilian political protégés, including a former senator, Franco Evangelisti, and Gioacchino Pennino, who was a Christian Democrat member of the Palermo City Council.

Mr. Caselli said Mr. Pennino, in particular, had furnished detailed information that helped explain how the mutually beneficial arrangements between the Christian Democratic Party and Mafia chieftains evolved from their common hatred of the Communists.

Judicial sources said Mr. Pennino's testimony was primarily responsible for the arrest this week of two Christian Democrat Parliament members from Sicily, ex-Senator Vincenzo Iuzzillo and former government minister Calogero Mannino, who were charged with working for the Mafia.

Jews Immigrate to Germany

FRANKFURT — The number of Jews in Germany has nearly doubled since 1989, thanks to immigration from Eastern Europe, and now there are more than 45,000. Jewish officials said Thursday. Before the Holocaust, there were about 500,000 Jews in Germany.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

EU Anti-Racism Body Is Proposed

STRASBOURG — The European Union should set up a watchdog body to monitor and curb racist attacks on minorities, the European Parliament said Thursday. The assembly was reacting to the killings earlier this month of four Gypsy men in Austria by a booby-trapped bomb that the police believe was planted by neo-Nazis. Austria joined the EU in January. (Reuters)

Russia's Ban on Visit Is Protested

MOSCOW — The European Parliament protested Wednesday over a Russian decision to forbid a European Union delegation to travel to the breakaway southern republic of Chechnya next week. An official statement said the European Parliament's chairman, Klaus Haensch, would regard the Russian move "as a severe blow" to relations with Russia. The delegation was due to head for Chechnya via Moscow from Feb. 19 to 24 on a fact-finding mission. But the Russian Consulate in Strasbourg refused to issue the visas. (Reuters)

Don't Isolate Russia, Claes Warns

PARIS — Willy Claes, secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was quoted Thursday as saying that the West must avoid isolating Russia over its crushing of the rebellion in Chechnya. In an interview with the French newspaper Le Monde, Mr. Claes said that ostracizing Russia over repression in Chechnya would only help hard-liners in Moscow and complicate an eventual expansion of NATO to include central European states seeking membership. (Reuters)

French Hairdressers Lose in Court

LUXEMBOURG — The European Court of Justice on Thursday upheld French rules requiring French hairdressers to hold a diploma, when those from other European Union states do not need one to work in France. Seven French hairdressers, facing proceedings before a court in Charleville-Mézières for running salons without holding a national diploma, had argued that French law discriminated against them while favoring other EU nationals. (Reuters)

Britons Balk at Single Currency

LONDON — A majority of Britons would vote against having a single currency in Europe, an opinion poll showed Thursday. Seventy percent of those polled said Britain should have a referendum on the issue, which has caused bitter divisions in Prime Minister John Major's Conservative government and brought it to the brink of parliamentary defeat. Asked for their voting intentions in a referendum, 51 percent said they would reject a single European currency, 26 supported the idea and the rest were undecided. (Reuters)

EU to Aid Somalia Water Project

BRUSSELS — The European Union announced Thursday that it would provide \$874,000 for a water purification project in the Somali capital, Mogadishu. The group's executive agency said the money would help restore a water pumping and purification station that serves more than half the population of Mogadishu. (AP)

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Friday:

STRASBOURG: End of European Parliament plenary session in Strasbourg.

BRUSSELS: President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia visits the European Commission and will meet its president, Jacques Santer.

NANCY: Informal meeting of EU public works ministers in this eastern French city, joined by EU commissioners Padraig Flynn and Erkki Liikanen.

BRUSSELS: Annual symposium between the European bureau for minority languages and the European Commission, which will concentrate on Austria, Finland and Sweden's membership in the EU.

BRUSSELS: Europeans and Japanese continue their consultation on the enforcement terms and conditions of their agreement on cars. The introduction of new European Union member states into the agreement, which is informal and voluntary, is one of the main objects of discussion. Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.



Three Bosnian children roller-skating at a Sarajevo cemetery Thursday, as a cease-fire in the capital continued to hold.

5 Powers to Sweeten Their Offer to Serbia

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

PARIS — The five nations pursuing a peace settlement in Bosnia have agreed to offer President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia more than a suspension of international trade sanctions in exchange for his recognition of Bosnia and Croatia, French officials said Thursday.

The officials said that when Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozirev of Russia visits Belgrade on Saturday to present the latest ideas of the five-nation "contact group," he will make clear to Mr. Milosevic that recognition would be accompanied by explicit guarantees for the Bosnian and Croatian Serbs.

President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia's mostly Muslim government would be required to give formal acceptance to the idea that the Bosnian Serbs are entitled to a "parallel treatment" to that accorded to Muslims and Croats in Bosnia. The

Muslims and Croats have been offered the right to confederate with Croatia, so such equivalency would presumably give the Bosnian Serbs the right to a similar arrangement with Serbia.

President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia would be required to rescind his demand that the United Nations troops who provide a buffer to the Croatian Serbs leave the country after March 31. Thus, Mr. Milosevic would gain the assurance that Serbs in Croatia are not abruptly exposed to attack.

Mr. Tudjman would also be asked to accept negotiations on an American-backed plan for the Croatian Serbs that offers most of them virtually complete autonomy. The Croatian government does not like the plan. In this way, the officials hope, Mr. Milosevic could argue that recognition of Bosnia and Croatia did not amount to abandonment of the Bosnian and Croatian Serbs he long supported in their military cam-

paigns to remain united with Serbia and evict or kill non-Serbs in the areas under their control.

Serbs hold about 70 percent of Bosnia and 30 percent of Croatia. "We have reason to believe," one official said, "that Mr. Milosevic's priority is now an end to Serbia's isolation and economic decline and that he no longer sees military means as the way to defend Serbian interests outside Serbia. That is the logic behind our offer."

But initial signs in Belgrade indicated that even such blandishments would fall well short of persuading Mr. Milosevic to opt for recognition of two countries whose borders he has contested for four years.

The newspaper Politika, which is close to Mr. Milosevic, reprinted comments from Vladimir Jovanovic, the foreign minister of the Serbian-dominated rump Yugoslav federation. He said, "We cannot recognize Croatia and Bosnia until

political solutions for the dispute in which all sides are equally treated are found."

Zarko Jokanovic, a spokesman for the New Democracy Party, which is allied with Mr. Milosevic's Serbian Socialist Party, said, "What is demanded of Serbia is too much considering the offer." And Vojislav Seselj, the leader of the hard-line Serbian Radical Party, said recognition would amount to "high treason."

Swiss Particle Physics Lab Is Crippled by a Saboteur

International Herald Tribune

A disgruntled technician sabotaged the world's largest particle physics laboratory, in Geneva, by dismantling hundreds of complex electronic modules, a spokesman said Thursday.

The spokesman for the European Particle Physics Laboratory said most of the 1,300 modules were found in hiding places under the flooring or behind walls and appeared to be undamaged. It will take weeks to reinstall and test them. The modules controlled the operation of a huge particle accelerator known as a proton synchrotron.

Colleagues said the technician, who had been with the laboratory for 27 years, was tormented by his recent divorce. His former wife works as an administrative assistant at the laboratory, which straddles the Swiss-French frontier. The police in Bourg-en-Bresse, France, identified the man as Nicolas Blazianu, 53, of Romanian origin. They said he would be charged with theft and attempted extortion.

The spokesman said the technician worked all weekend to dismantle the control system. All the particle experiments at the laboratory depend on the proton synchrotron, which accelerates particles to an initial speed, or energy level. They are then injected into larger accelerators where they are collided together to recreate the conditions in the very early stages of the universe.

The laboratory's experiments are shut during the winter months to allow for maintenance and reprogramming. Experiments on the laboratory's main electronic collider were scheduled to resume in April, and the spokesman said it was hoped to get the synchrotron working by then. About 9,000 people, including 5,000 physicists, work at the center.

EU-Turkey Accord Hits Snag

STRASBOURG — The European Parliament threw further doubt on European Union plans for a customs agreement with Turkey on Thursday, saying Ankara's human rights record was too poor for the deal to be allowed to go through. Members of Parliament adopted a resolution describing Turkey's rights record as "too grave to allow for the formation of the proposed custom union at present."

They said they would not approve a deal granting Turkey access to EU markets unless they heard reports of progress in the human rights area. Under the Maastricht treaty, the Parliament, the EU's only

directly elected body, has the power to block deals such as the customs union.

European Union foreign ministers have been working hard to agree on a deal that would allow Greece, Turkey's longtime rival, to drop its veto of the customs union.

In exchange for Athens' lifting its objections, the EU would

Unionists Warn Major On Proposal

LONDON — Opponents of Irish reunification bluntly told Prime Minister John Major on Thursday that his plans for peace in Northern Ireland were unacceptably one-sided.

Three members of Parliament representing Unionists who want the province to stay British said Mr. Major failed to dispel their fears at a meeting earlier this week that the proposals amounted to a sell-out to Dublin. "While we remain willing to discuss our own reasonable proposals, we would not be able to enter into talks on the basis of an agenda which we regard to be a one-sided nationalist agenda," they said in a letter to Mr. Major.

Britain and Ireland are trying to bring Unionist and nationalist parties together to discuss how to cement peace in Northern Ireland, still fragile after cease-fires six months ago ended a 25-year-old civil war that cost 3,200 lives.

Publisher to Destroy Book Alleging Jews Ran Camps

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

BONN — After complaints by a leading literary critic and other figures, a German publisher has ordered the withdrawal and destruction of the German-language version of a book asserting that Jews ran internment camps for Germans in postwar Poland.

The book, "Eye for an Eye" by John Sack, had been labeled "anti-Semitic fodder" in a review by one of Germany's leading literary critics, Elke Geisel. News of its impending publication stirred charges that the book would be exploited by

neo-Nazis likening the treatment of Germans to the killing of 6 million Jews.

By the time the uproar broke out, 6,000 German copies of the book had already been printed, though none had yet been sold. The German publisher, Piper Verlag of Munich, said in a statement that the book "could become the cause for some misunderstanding, that is that the Holocaust might be compared with other crimes of that time or could even be set off against them."

The decision to withdraw the book reflected profound sensitivities over Germany's view of its own past, especially in a year

studded with commemorations of the traumatic events 50 years ago that led up to the Nazi capitulation in May 1945.

Viktor Niemann, the publisher of Piper, said in the statement that "everything must be avoided that could possibly turn the discussion into a wrong direction."

Mr. Niemann, who has said the print run would probably be recycled, could not be reached Wednesday night to say whether the books, stacked in a Stuttgart warehouse, had already been destroyed.

Mr. Sack, an American journalist, argued in "Eye for an Eye" (Basic Books, 1993) that

Stalin deliberately chose Jews to oversee secret police activities in the former German territories of postwar Poland.

The author based his conclusions on interviews with several high-ranking Jewish members of the Office of State Security, the Polish Communist organization that, under Soviet supervision, maintained some former Nazi death camps in Poland after World War II.

According to Mr. Sack, the German Federal Archives say that 60,000 to 80,000 Germans died in Polish internment camps between 1945 and 1948. Some American critics as-

sailed the book as sensational.

But Mr. Sack said Wednesday that 15 months after the book was published in the United States, its veracity had not been substantially challenged.

"The story I'm trying to get out is that the story has been fact-checked" by major American news organizations, he said, and "nobody has yet found any error in it."

YACHT FOR SALE

1990 Oyster 68

Lying Southern France. Excellent condition. Very well equipped. Being well looked after by full time professional crew. Never chartered.

Phone: 033 94 43 23 05 Fax: 033 94 56 13 14

In this Saturday's

MONEY

The Psychology of Investing

Why is selling an investment so difficult?

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

- Monday International Conferences and Seminars
- Tuesday Education Directory
- Wednesday Business Message Center
- Thursday International Recruitment
- Friday Real Estate Marketplace, Holidays and Travel
- Saturday Arts and Antiques

Plus over 300 headings in International Classified Monday through Saturday For further information, contact Philip Orna in Paris: Tel: (33-1) 46 37 94 74 - Fax: (33-1) 46 37 52 12

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

INDONESIA: PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Among the topics to be covered are:

- Repelita VI, the 5-year development plan.
- Examination of changing consumer trends.
- Foreign investment — a record \$18 billion in 1994.
- The boom in commercial and residential real estate.
- A review of the Jakarta stock market.

For further information, please contact Bill Mahler in Paris at (33-1) 46 37 93 78 or fax (33-1) 46 37 50 44.

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

ITC

INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

WORLDWIDE CALL BACK SYSTEM

Now offers Direct Dial to anywhere in the world at Call Back Prices.

Fax & Data can also be used with ITC's Direct Dialer.

Distributors Needed Worldwide

For Call Back / Call Centers and Prepaid Calling Cards International and Domestic.

International Telephone Company

290 Pratt Street, Meriden, CT 06450-2118

1800-638-5558 ext. 111/ 203-238-9794

Fax: 203-929-4906

"Limited Countries Available"

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Don't Reward Serbia

The Five Are Wrong

The five-power negotiating group on Bosnia—France, Britain, Germany and Russia, in addition to the United States—is offering to lift all remaining United Nations economic sanctions on Serbia. In return it asks Belgrade to recognize the independence of Bosnia and Croatia and cut off supplies to rebel Serbian forces in both countries.

That might be a reasonable proposal if Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic, had a record of honoring his commitments, or if the five-power group had a record of insisting on compliance with its deals. Neither is true.

The Clinton administration, which portrays itself as a reluctant partner in Europe's pro-Serbian strategy, should have rejected this latest diplomatic charade. The new humiliations it courts can only strengthen the hand of Senate critics like Bob Dole, the majority leader, who are pushing Washington to ditch its European allies and independently lift the arms embargo on the Bosnian government.

The latest offer to Belgrade comes as evidence mounts that Serbia has not lived up to the last deal it made with the five powers. Last year Mr. Milosevic pledged to stop supplying the Bosnian Serbs in exchange for a partial lifting of UN sanctions against Serbia. Recently Serbian helicopters have been brazenly flying supplies across the supposedly sealed border. Yet instead of reimposing the lifted sanctions there is an offer to elimi-

nate those which remain. The sanctions lifted last year were symbolic. Those now being discussed affect Serbia's ability to wage protracted war.

Washington's motive in going along with the five-power plan was apparently fear that Croatia would expel UN forces from its territory, perhaps triggering a wider war. Serbian recognition of Croatian independence, in theory, might allow the UN troops to stay. It is a worthy, if elusive, objective, but the price is too high.

Bribing Mr. Milosevic to make peace was never the Clinton administration's preferred policy. Washington long and correctly argued that the world should let Bosnia defend itself by lifting the unfair arms embargo that tilts the battlefield balance toward the Serbs. Regrettably, the administration has all but dropped its efforts on the arms embargo in the name of NATO unity. But instead of strengthening NATO, the administration's passivity toward Europe has weakened it. American lawmakers are becoming disenchanted with an alliance in which American dollars and troops are welcome but American ideas are not.

Washington needs to reconsider this latest proposal to court the Serbs. Instead it should start pressing its allies to move together toward lifting the Bosnian arms embargo before the Senate forces separate American action. The time to talk about lifting more sanctions on Serbia will come when Serbia starts honoring its commitments.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Seeking a Phony Peace

The United States and its partners in dealing with the old Yugoslavia have got it upside down. What they should be doing is putting more pressure on Serbia and the Serbian rebels it supports in Bosnia and Croatia. What they actually are doing is putting less pressure by prematurely opening up the possibility of ending the already partly suspended, porous sanctions on Serbia that are in place.

This new sweetener concocted by the five-nation Contact Group takes as its stated purpose to draw the Serbian regime of Slobodan Milosevic into formal acceptance of international peace plans for Bosnia and Croatia. But it was always implicit anyway that if Mr. Milosevic decided to rein in his wild ambitions for a Greater Serbia, the sanctions on him would fade away. Now to make it explicit—while he still cheats on his pledges, before he has shown a commitment to restraint—is to invite him to bargain the Contact Group down to extract a large concession for a minimal policy change.

It is easy enough to grasp why the Contact Group finds itself in the weird position of proposing to suspend not the military embargo on the chief victim.

Bosnia, but the economic sanctions on the chief offender, Serbia. It is because none of the group's five members has a taste for employing the force it would take to stiffen their lowest-common-denominator collective diplomacy.

To prevent their diplomacy from becoming altogether laughable, the five should at the least be stiffening it with tougher sanctions on Serbia. But this they decline to do.

A tragic irony is building. The danger now perceived by the Contact Group is that the war will spread. But the burden of constraining it is being put largely on the Muslims and, to a lesser extent, the Croats. They can fairly wonder whether they are not being asked to swallow huge Serbian incursions on their territory, viability and sovereignty for the geopolitical convenience of states far from the battlefield and substantially unaffected by its flows. Feeling abandoned even as their fundamental interests are threatened, Muslims and Croats may yet be confirmed in a judgment that they can satisfy their legitimate political goals only by military means. Seeking a phony peace, the United States and its partners may be stoking a greater war.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

About Secretary Brown

Confronted with suspicious-looking financial dealings by one of his highest-profile cabinet officers, President Bill Clinton has responded with a debatable non sequitur. Ron Brown, he has said, has "been a great commerce secretary."

As Mr. Clinton should have learned at considerable pain, slippery language is no way to treat a serious ethics question. Whether or not Mr. Brown engaged in shady practices, the presidential brush-off suggests that the administration thinks it has something to hide. Abner Mikva, the White House counsel, met with Mr. Brown's attorney but, oddly, did not press for a detailed explanation. Clearly, Mr. Mikva has a duty to dig harder for the facts, and the president has an obligation to come forward with a thorough public accounting.

Representative William Clinger Jr., Republican of Pennsylvania, began trying a year ago to get Mr. Brown to explain some curious items on his financial disclosure statement. Mr. Brown, responding mostly through aides, has given inaccurate, incomplete and misleading answers. The central questions arise from his interest in a small investment and consulting business called First International Inc. and his complex transactions with his partner in the company, Noland Hill.

At the center of it all is a provocative mystery: How did Mr. Brown earn more than \$400,000 from the sale of his stake in the not-so-successful company, in which he says he invested no money and had little direct involvement?

He answers that it is not unusual for companies to pay prominent individuals for lending their names, prestige and advice to business ventures. But such spontaneous generosity by a small, troubled business does not seem commonplace at all. In any event, does Mr. Clinton believe

it proper for a commerce secretary to hold an interest in any business that depends on his name to open doors?

Another question is whether Mr. Brown complied with financial disclosure rules in reporting payments by Ms. Hill, supposedly as part of the sale of his interest in First International. She covered \$262,000 in personal debts for him and issued three checks of \$45,000 each from a separate and previously undisclosed company, First International Limited Partnership. Congressional investigators are intrigued by the timing of the checks, which were written months before Mr. Brown says he divested his interest, in December 1993.

There are other perplexing angles, most notably Mr. Brown's relationship with another company owned by Ms. Hill, Corridor Broadcasting Corporation. Mr. Brown, through a spokesman, firmly denied any business ties to Corridor, which cost taxpayers \$23 million when it defaulted on a loan held by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. But it turns out that Corridor and First International shared an office, and a promissory note from Corridor was First International's main asset. Mr. Brown asserts, implausibly, that he was unaware of these links to Corridor. Republican critics, meanwhile, ask whether the assets of Corridor were drained fraudulently or recklessly while the loan was in default, and whether Mr. Brown has any indirect link to the FDIC losses.

The Justice Department and the FDIC have opened their own inquiries. But that does not absolve the president from making an independent, public judgment about Mr. Brown's dealings. This, after all, is the administration that came to town promising that it would not tolerate smelly deals.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

UN Peacekeeping Was and Will Remain Invaluable

By Brian Urquhart

WASHINGTON — "As you know the United States... has a strong interest in the early establishment of standby arrangements for a United Nations Peace Force. The interest of the American people in this concept is further demonstrated by the fact that during the past year resolutions were adopted by both the House of Representatives and the Senate calling for the establishment of a United Nations force."

Those words, written by an American secretary of state, John Foster Dulles, to a UN secretary general, Dag Hammarskjöld, provide a good measure of how different the climate in Washington is these days toward the idea of UN peacekeeping operations.

"I want to assure you that the United States is prepared to assist you in every feasible manner in strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to discharge its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, a task to which you have already contributed so much," Mr. Dulles wrote in that 1958 letter.

Mr. Hammarskjöld responded cautiously. At that high point in the Cold War he feared that a standing UN force, actively opposed by the Soviet Union, would become a political football be-

tween East and West, destroying the fragile innovation of peacekeeping that he had pioneered during the Suez crisis of 1956 and the Lebanon crisis of 1958.

President Dwight Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles, on the other hand, evidently saw a standby UN peacekeeping capacity as being greatly in the interest of the United States.

In fact, just 18 months later President Eisenhower, pressed by the new prime minister of the Congo for U.S. intervention there, adroitly referred him to the United Nations. The resulting peacekeeping operation was widely regarded as an extraordinary success in dealing with the chaos there.

Since that time the United Nations has undertaken some 25 such assignments of varying sizes in different parts of the world. Given the desperate origins of most of these operations, it is scarcely surprising that not all have achieved all their objectives. But it is worth noting that in the present controversy over peacekeeping, the successful operations—which constitute the majority—are seldom mentioned.

In recent months, for example, there has been much discussion of placing U.S. troops in the Golan Heights as part of the Middle East peace process, but little mention of the UN Disengagement Observer Force, which has successfully presided over peace on the Golan Heights since 1974.

Somalia and Bosnia are constantly

invoked, but the Nobel Peace Prize of 1988 and later successes in Namibia, Cambodia, El Salvador and Mozambique are routinely forgotten.

The prevailing attitude in Washington toward UN peacekeeping these days seems to be a radical reversal of the earlier U.S. attitude. The impression is often given now that past U.S. support of these efforts was an aberration, a charitable—and largely unwise—gesture of concession. But in fact, from Suez in 1956 to the present time, UN peacekeeping has far more often been a vital element of U.S. foreign policy.

During the Cold War, it was vital to maintaining international peace and security, because, among other things, it kept regional conflicts out of the U.S.-Soviet orbit and lessened the potential of such conflicts for provoking nuclear East-West confrontation.

In the post-Cold War world, that motivation for supporting peacekeeping no longer exists. The United Nations' new involvements are for the most part in human and ethnic conflicts where human, not international, security is involved, although such disasters often cause major destabilization in neighboring states as well as strong emotional reactions worldwide.

It is this change in the basic character of conflict that has led the more vocal opponents of United Nations peacekeeping to argue that there is little or no U.S. national interest in it.

As Charles William Maynes has pointed out in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to-

day's great powers are "like the most successful members of any community." He continued: "They have a stake in the general health of the community. They cannot and should not be the world's policeman."

Great powers have major economic and other interests in global stability, but find it increasingly unwise to intervene on their own in regional conflicts. It was considerations such as these that underlay the enthusiasm of Mr. Dulles and Mr. Eisenhower for building up the peacekeeping capacity of the United Nations.

Even the most criticized UN operations, such as the protection force in ex-Yugoslavia, often serve as a useful pretext for avoiding more intensive U.S. involvement, and as a screen for differences with allies. Imperfect though they are, they also save thousands of lives.

UN peacekeeping can be, and will continue to be, an invaluable—even an indispensable—instrument of peace. Its capacity and effectiveness need to be strengthened, not diminished.

To be sure, new forms, rules and methods, including a training system, need to be developed. But the cost of peacekeeping, contrary to widespread belief, is small by comparison with the cost of massive military involvement, which timely peacekeeping often succeeds in making unnecessary. John Foster Dulles got it right.

The writer, a former UN undersecretary-general, is a scholar in residence at the Ford Foundation. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Beyond the Peso, Mexico's Whole Development Strategy Is in Crisis

By Jerome L. Levinson

WASHINGTON — It did not take long for the peso crisis to escalate into a full-fledged national crisis for Mexico and its ruling party. Far from being just a short-term financial market phenomenon, the country's currency devaluation has been followed in rapid order by defeat in an important state election and by troubling developments with regard to the peasant uprising in the southern part of the country.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the development strategy being followed by Mexico is not viable, either within the country or for the United States. To ignore this warning, as Washington mounts a rescue operation to get the government of President Ernesto Zedillo out of its current mess, is to invite an even more fundamental crisis in the future.

An explosive social and political situation has been building for some time in Mexico. One reason for this can be seen in a central feature of the government's latest development strategy: an agreement by labor unions to wage

increases substantially lower than the inflation rate in 1995.

That agreement was possible because the official labor union confederations in Mexico are adjuncts of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, more attuned to the political demands of the government than to the interests of their members. That is why they agreed to a "social pact" during the past seven years that often resulted in suppressing the real wages of workers.

Once again, as in the decade of the 1980s, Mexican workers—who were assured that passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement would lead to higher wages and employment—are being asked to bear the brunt of an austerity program demanded by foreign creditors.

The regressive wage policy coincides with the question of land and its ownership. Land in Mexico is often communally owned by peasant communities, the *ejidos*. In order to prepare Mexico for

NAFTA, the predecessor government of Carlos Salinas de Gortari amended the constitution to permit the *ejido* lands to be divided among their members, making it easier for individuals to sell their land to larger, more efficient landowners better able to compete with U.S. and Canadian producers after a transition period envisioned by NAFTA.

This process displaced large numbers of poor peasants, fueled the peasant uprising in Chiapas and accounted for much of the sympathy that the southern uprising initially drew from rural areas in other Mexican states.

Moreover, a significant part of Mexico's small and medium labor-intensive manufacturing sector has been devastated by the open-market regime of NAFTA and Mexico's adherence to GATT. The result has been increasing concentration of economic assets in a relatively small group of Mexican conglomerates, accentuating glaring income inequalities.

All these things, combined with the response to the immediate financial crisis—accelerated entry of foreign banks and proposed distress sale of remaining state-owned assets to powerful private domestic and foreign investors—make for a politically combustible situation.

The loss of important elections in the state of Jalisco, and President Zedillo's stops and starts on dealing with the problem in Chiapas, could be just the first signs of domestic unrest that will make the peso crisis look like a tempest in a teapot.

The safety valve for the social and political tinderbox that is Mexico today has been emigration to the United States by the population displaced by Mexico's economic and social revolution. But California's Proposition 187 has made clear that this outlet valve cannot be counted on any longer.

At the outset of the devaluation crisis, President Zedillo reacted with commendable candor. "The development of Mexico demands that we recognize with all realism

that we do not constitute a rich country but a nation of grave needs and wants," he said.

That statement should be a departure point for a rethinking of Mexico's development strategy.

Another should be this warning in a World Bank 1993 strategy paper concerning Mexico: "How the government responds to chronic poverty—and the possibly more visible and politically charged problem of a policy-induced deterioration in the distribution of income—may be critical to the continuing viability of its economic program."

Whatever the details of such a reconsideration, it is evident that the neoliberal economic model which has prevailed in Mexico, with its excessive dependence upon foreign portfolio and direct investment, cannot, in either Mexico or the United States, be politically or socially sustained.

The writer, a research associate at the Economic Policy Institute, contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

What Does NATO Propose to Be Doing South of the Mediterranean?

By Frederick Bonhart

BRUSSELS — NATO's recent offer of a direct dialogue with five countries south of the Mediterranean raised a ripple of excitement and a number of questions. Was an extension to the south envisaged to complement that to the east? Would the organization take a hand in the faltering Middle East peace process? Did it intend to become involved in violent confrontation in North Africa? Was it only trying to find another role to justify its existence?

Allied diplomats say the initiative was intended merely to achieve better mutual understanding, inform Mediterranean governments about NATO's peacekeeping potential, and demonstrate its interest in security in an unstable region. Extension of this dialogue to other Mediterranean countries was envisaged for the future.

It was in keeping with alliance concerns to strengthen regional stability mentioned at the June and December 1994 foreign ministers' meetings. And action had been urged by French Defense Minister François Léotard at the informal meeting of defense ministers in Seville in September.

This is no doubt true as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. The nub is in what has been left unsaid.

The approach was made to Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Israel. The two countries on the Mediterranean's southern shores omitted from it are Algeria and Libya.

NATO's southern members, in particular France, Italy and Spain, are under increasing eco-

nomic and demographic pressure from across the water. They worry about infiltration of terrorists and about the dangers to the large numbers of their nationals who live in those countries.

NATO points out that initial contacts are merely at ambassador level in Brussels, and that no further significance should be read into them. But a move such as this is highly political. So it is necessary to be clear about its aim, and to assess consequences.

The approach will be judged in the light of statements about the dangers of international terrorism on the one hand and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction on the other. NATO's secretary-general, Willy Claes, has called fundamentalism the great-

est present threat. In a recent speech he pointed out NATO's ability to act independently of the United Nations if necessary.

The confrontation in Algeria is taking an increasing toll. External force may be considered essential to rescue foreign residents there, and perhaps to safeguard the supply of gas and oil to Europe.

Taken together, all this will have an effect on governments in the countries contacted as well as on those left out, and simultaneously on the various opposition movements, whether violent or democratic. Their interpretation of the NATO move is likely to be far-reaching. The alliance will be understood to be aligning itself with one of the sides in the ongoing troubles, and further action will then be expected of it.

The question that NATO should ask itself is what action it is willing to undertake in support of stability in the region, and whether it is able to carry it out.

Its peacekeeping record in the Yugoslav crisis—the first and only such activity—has come under considerable criticism. NATO has correctly pointed out that this is unjust, as it did in fact carry out all that was asked of it, and its hands were tied by United Nations rulings. But the world has seen intervention as a failure to assume a role that it considers to be one of its major functions in the post-Cold War setting.

This judgment is based on a

profound misunderstanding of the nature of the organization. In the 45 years of its existence NATO has built up a highly effective multinational military mechanism with a political superstructure that can set it in motion almost immediately. But NATO is a fully democratic organization, which can act only if all its members so decide.

The mechanism worked extremely well in the Yugoslav emergency, to the degree of action that had been agreed upon. What was lacking was the political will to go any further.

The consequent loss of credibility has undermined public support for NATO. If the alliance now intends to deal with another crisis, it should first be clear about the resources it has available for possible intervention and the will to carry it through.

Full prior agreement should be obtained that, if force is to be employed, members are prepared to commit it massively to ensure success. The political and economic consequences of a military success should also be envisaged.

Finally, there should be complete clarity about the effect of another failure. It might spell the doom of the alliance.

The writer is editor of NATO's *Sixteen Nations*, an independent military journal published in Brussels. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

The Iraqi Potential for Germ Warfare

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — With Iraq's nuclear and poison gas production capability limited by the scrutiny of United Nations inspectors, Saddam Hussein is developing the means to produce a terror weapon much harder to find: the deadly microorganisms of biological warfare.

Thirty quarts of cultures of cholera, tuberculosis and plague bacteria were found in the past few months. At the Sepp Institute in Methana, in underground storage at the Ghazi Research Institute in Amiriya, at Salman-Pak and Al-Hakem, the fermentors, lyophilizers for freeze-drying and centrifuges for separation of bacteria are in place.

Hundreds of biologists are kept on Iraq's payroll awaiting orders from a woman named Ribab Rashid Taha Azawi.

Dr. Taha, 42, trained in toxicology in Britain, is known to some Iraqis as "Dr. Germ." Western intelligence agencies knew her as developer of Saddam's botulinum toxin stockpile in the 1980s, but she now says she is developing innocent vaccines. Even so, she regularly frustrates the four members of the UN Special Commission (Unscm) investigating germ warfare.

Ambassador Rolf Ekeus of Sweden, who heads the commission, complains of foot-dragging, belated admissions about sites and deliberate withholding of facts about experiments on animals. "It's like '1001 Nights,'" he told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

he told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

Four sources inside Iraq say that hidden equipment for growth of anthrax, botulinum toxin and pasteurized, causative agent of the plague, includes 50-liter fermentors and sterile mixing tanks made by the Italian company Olsa, and 150-liter fermentors supplied in the '80s by the Swiss company Chemak.

Because anthrax spores resist re-entry heat, those are the germs of choice for use in missile warheads. Such terror war seems too horrible to contemplate. But Saddam readily reintroduced poison gas in the '80s, raining death on 5,000 Kurds in Halabja.

Rod Barton, the Australian who heads Unscm's bio-warfare section, notes that Russia only recently admitted that the 1979 anthrax outbreak in Sverdlovsk was caused by an accident at a bio-war plant at which more than 100 workers died.

Reluctant to confirm specifics about sites, Mr. Ekeus states unequivocally: "We face our greatest problems in accounting for Iraq's past and present biological program."

Dr. Taha insists that her past military-financed research was purely to protect against dis-

ease, but the UNSCOM report of two months ago concluded that "the indications all point to an offensive program."

The UN commission thinks the Iraqis are not now producing germs for delivery, but is certain that Saddam has the equipment, material and expertise on hand to begin production of biological warfare agents as soon as inspectors are thrown out. The facility in Dura now innocently producing hoof-and-mouth vaccines is set up for immediate changeover to bio-war production.

With such a capability at hand, with the will to use terror weaponry already demonstrated by Saddam; with the means of production and delivery awaiting only oil income and a few months' secrecy—is this the moment to suspend the world's economic sanctions on Iraq?

France, Russia and China, eager for business, think so. The United States and Britain think not. Germany wavers.

To encourage Iraq to let his team stay, Mr. Ekeus's April report may cite some progress in inspections. A drumbeat of stories will follow about how poor Iraqis are suffering from the denial of oil income. Don't fall for it. If the world lets heavy money flow to Baghdad while Saddam rules, at least one weapon of mass destruction will soon be in the hands of a proven killer.

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Not For Children

NEW YORK — It is reported from Apia that a German firm in Samoa has been importing rifles and munitions from Germany, thereby enabling the rebels to oppose King Malietoa. The cases were labelled "Toys" and thus passed the Custom House.

1920: War Crime Trials

PARIS — As has been prophesied in diplomatic circles for several days, the German Government is to be entrusted with the trial of Germans charged with "war crimes," although the Allied Governments have reserved the right, in view of this substantial modification of the spirit if not the letter of the Treaty of Versailles, to intervene at any time and correct the judgements of the German High Court at Leipzig by a trial outside Germany.

1945: Manila Atrocities

MANILA — In the final hour of their desperate defense of south Manila, the Japanese are machine-gunning, bayoneting and sadistically butchering helpless civilians as they flee burning homes and attempt to cross into American lines. A trustworthy man escaped from Intramuros, the old walled city, with the news that the Japanese rounded up 5,000 civilians, herding them into San Augustin Church for two nights and a day with little food or water. The men were then separated from the crowd and taken to the prison at Fort Santiago. There a veiled mestizo identified 100 males who had been guerrillas. They were promptly bayoneted to death. The rest were locked into a building and the Japanese put a torch to it. Those who managed to climb out were shot, but a few escaped in the tall grass.

International Herald Tribune
ESTABLISHED 1857
KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER
Co-Chairmen
RICHARD McCLEAN, Publisher & Chief Executive
JOHN VINOCUR, Executive Editor & Vice President
WALTER WELLS, News Editor • SAMUEL ABT, KATHARINE KNORR, and
CHARLES MITCHELMORE, Deputy Editors • CARL GEWIRTZ, Associate Editor
• ROBERT J. DONAHUE, Editor of the Editorial Pages • JONATHAN GAGE, Business and Finance Editor
• RENÉ BONDY, Deputy Publisher • JAMES MCLEOD, Advertising Director
• JUANITA I. CASPARI, International Development Director • DIDIER BRUN, Circulation Director
Directeur de la Publication: Richard D. Simmons
Directeur Adjoint de la Publication: Katharine P. Durrow

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.
Tel. (1) 46 37 93 03. Fax: (1) 46 37 08 51. Adv.: 46 37 52 12. Internet: HTH@eur.heraldtribune.com
Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson, 5 Convent Road, Singapore 0511. Tel. (65) 472 7761. Fax: (65) 274 2144
Hong Kong: 10/F, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431

Travel for the Senses, By Canal in Burgundy

By Kay Eldredge

(Janet Maslin, NYT)

LEISURE

Homework for Road Warriors

By Roger Collis
International Herald Tribune

THE military maxim "Time spent in reconnaissance is never wasted" is sound advice for today's road warriors—especially when traveling to daunting or unfamiliar destinations. Travel should come down to careful planning and attention to detail. Always expect the unexpected.

There are two kinds of travel guides: those that help you plan your trip and how to travel and those that show you how to survive and enjoy when you arrive. The trick is to build your own data base from several guides (not all are best for every destination) in order to get the right mix of background, insights and updates.

ITM (Travel Information Manual) is an essential source book for the frequent traveler. It is an austere 380-page travel lexicon of official requirements, procedures and restrictions for entering (and leaving) more than 250 countries, published every month in the Netherlands. The book provides exhaustive detail on immigration rules, passports, visas, health certificates, customs and currency rules for all nationalities. (ITM, PO Box 902, NL-2130 EA Hoofddorp, Netherlands. Tel: (31) 2503 73525; Fax: (31) 2503 73515)

The best way to plan your own flights is to subscribe to a hard copy or electronic edition of an ABC or OAG guide.

ABC/OAG Desktop Flight Guides are published monthly in Worldwide and North American editions. The monthly OAG Pocket Flight Guide comes in four editions: Europe/Africa/Middle East, North America, Latin America/Caribbean and Asia/Pacific. They all show flights to major cities in other regions.

OAG Travel Service—the on-line version for personal computers—lists more than 2 million flights and a million fares from 700 airlines. Fares are updated daily and schedules are refreshed weekly. You can check availability of airline seats or hotel rooms and in some countries make reservations yourself.

The system is user-friendly. You tell the computer where you are, where you want to go and roughly when. You can move back and forth between fares and schedules.

OAG Flight Disk (Premier World Edition), updated monthly with a new disk, gives you access to every domestic and international flight. You can search for flights by departure or arrival times, request "preferred airlines" and use a split-screen to work out your own flight con-

nections. You can put in your own information: meetings, phone numbers, where you're staying, and then print a customized schedule. (OAG: (44) 1582 695 050 or fax (44) 1582 695 049)

When it comes to specific cities, I recommend the **Insight Cityguide** series. These are colorful 250- to 300-page books packed with evocative photographs. They are sketchy on hard travel data and not always up-to-date, but are excellent back-

The Frequent Traveler

ground reading on people, politics, history, culture, cuisine and sight-seeing. So far, there are 49 titles (Insight publishes nearly 300 titles, mainly country guides)—21 cities in Europe plus numerous others. The 30 to 40 pages of "Travel Tips" at the back of each book might be worth tearing out and taking with you.

Most of these cities are covered by the smaller, more compact, **Insight Pocket Guide** series, which focus more on practical advice in getting around, with recommendations for sight-seeing, hotels, restaurants and shops.

Lonely Planet guides, with more than 150 titles, have been a byword among backpackers and budget travelers since they first appeared 20 years ago. But they are a valuable source of accurate, no-nonsense information for business as well. **Lonely Planet's Arab Gulf States** "travel survival kit" is the best guide to the region you can find. New titles include Japan, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Macau, and Canton.

The problem with most guides is that they cover the beaten track, but stop short on how to cope in more daunting destinations. You need an inside track—not only how to enjoy, but how to survive.

This is the aim of **Inside Tracks**, a "destination data base" consisting of con-

crete guides to 66 cities. Each guide runs to nine pages with maps, but no ads or pictures. Along with more predictable places, destinations include such gritty places as Accra, Addis Ababa, Algiers, Asunción, Cairo, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Harare, Lagos, Lubumbashi, Lusaka and Managua.

What makes **Inside Tracks** especially useful is that reports are written by a network of local correspondents and are updated every six months. Correspondents range from diplomats and doctors to politicians and business people.

The guides start by summarizing the place's appeal (or lack thereof): Getting Along is about the mood and way of life. Getting Around covers practical points such as airport procedures, taxi cabs and cost of transport; Getting Going is the place itself, what is best to see and avoid; Good Hotels, brief descriptions of up to 12; Good Food, notes on local cuisine and a few spots where you will find it; Good Nights, with emphasis on the local scene; Good Shopping, from stores to local markets; Good Timing, what to expect whenever you come. Reports are short on fantasy and long on facts.

Each guide costs £3 (\$4.65), plus postage per order of 50 pence airmail in Europe, £1 elsewhere, from **Inside Tracks**, 10 Hartswood Road, London W12 9NQ; tel/fax: (44) 81 749 0748.

THE guides that complement all others are **The Rough Guides**, with nearly 100 titles but only 11 city editions. The guides are only "rough" when it comes to paper and because they are aimed at the budget traveler. But they are no less sophisticated. The books are light and easy to pack and are full with an eclectic mix of culture, convention and "low life." You'll find no-nonsense sections on music and dance, theater and museums along with guides to street markets, bars, cafés and night spots, nuggets of history and politics.

A new generation of digital mapping programs emerging in the United States allows you to plan your trip by computer. A good way to start is with **Global Explorer** (\$69 on CD-ROM for Windows) from **DeLone Mapping**, Lower Main St., Box 298, Freeport, ME 04032. Fax: (207) 865 9291. This enables you to explore the streets of 100 cities with the help of indexed references to more than 120,000 places shown on topographic maps. The maps enable you to zoom in and out through 15 levels of magnification.

With software like this, you may become a state-of-the-art armchair traveler.

HEAR THIS

■ Despite an increase in miracles, an upward trend in cults and conspiracies and the discovery of new animal species, 1994 was not as strange as the previous year—in fact, 2 percent less strange, according to the **Fortean Times**, a journal of odd phenomena. But then 1993 was a very weird year.

THE ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA

Vienna
Kunst-Haus Wien, tel: (1) 712-0485, open daily. To April 30: "Jean Dubuffet: Eine Retrospektive." 140 paintings, sculptures, drawings and collages covering the years 1919 to 1965.

BELGIUM

Antwerp
Musée des Beaux-Arts, tel: (3) 238-7809, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "Ernst Barlach." A retrospective of the works of the German sculptor who was associated with Expressionism. Includes works reflecting his sojourn to Russia and his experience in World War I.

BRITAIN

London
Dulwich Picture Gallery, tel: (181) 953-9000, closed Mondays. To April 30: "Poussin: Works on Paper." More than 60 drawings spanning Poussin's career, including his early work in Paris, his maturity in Rome and the rigorous drawings of the 1640s onward.

Museum of Mankind, tel: (71) 323-8525, open daily. To Dec. 10: "The Ainu of Japan." A collection of approximately 130 objects from the late 19th and early 20th centuries documenting the life of the minority living in the northern island of Hokkaido.

Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (71) 494-5615, open daily. Continuing: "Nicolas Poussin." More than 80 paintings by the 17th-century French painter. Poussin drew his subject matter from biblical, historical or mythological sources. Related exhibitions are organized at the Wallace Collection, the Dulwich Picture Gallery and the National Gallery.

Manchester
The Whitworth Art Gallery, tel: (61) 273-4855, closed Sundays. To April 17: "Master Drawings from the National Portrait Gallery." More than 100 portraits, watercolors, sketches and caricatures demonstrate the role of drawing in British portraiture. Includes works by Hilliard, Gainsborough, Millais, Sargent and Kitaj.

CANADA

Quebec
Musée du Québec, tel: (418) 646-3330, closed Mondays. To May 14: "L'Art Québécois de l'Estampe: 1850-1990." Bears witness to the development of the art of printmaking in Quebec. Illustrates, through major contemporary art movements (Surrealism, Abstract art, Pop art, Op art, Hyper Realism, etc.), the main creative manifestations which have marked Quebec art.

FRANCE

Paris
Centre Culturel de Boulogne-Billancourt, tel: (1) 47-12-77-95, closed Sundays. To May 13: "Monsieur Groux." A retrospective of the works of the 19th-century painter, featuring more than 300 items documenting ways of life and culture in the mountains, valleys and plateaus of former Indochina.

Musée Gernsheim, tel: (1) 45-63-50-75, closed Mondays. To May 14: "Japon, Savoirs et Sérénité: La Céramique du Thé dans les Collections de la Céramique de la Céramique." An exhibition of utensils used in traditional tea ceremonies, including Chinese and Japanese ceramic tea bowls, sake cups and flower vases.

Musée d'Orsay, tel: (1) 40-49-48-14, closed Mondays. Continuing: "Whistler, 1834-1903." Features 66 paintings, including "The Little White Girl" and "Portrait of the Artist's Mother." 100 drawings, engravings and watercol-



Barbara Hepworth's sculpture, in Connecticut.

ors, as well as 20 pastels by the American painter.

GERMANY

Berlin
Amerika Haus, tel: (30) 310-0010, open daily. To March 14: "Dennis Stock: Made in USA." A view of the American way of life by this photographer who arrived in Germany in the early 1950s while working for the Magnum Photo Agency. The exhibit displays black-and-white photographs of state fairs, mobile home retirement communities, and hitchhiking hippies.

Kunstbibliothek, tel: (30) 266-2028, closed Saturdays and Sundays. To March 3: "Reisekatalog des Architekten Friedrich August Stüler." 150 sketches from Stüler's travels. It includes works from the Kunstbibliothek, Berlin, the Prussian Castle Foundation, and the Garten Berlin-Brandenburg.

Neue Nationalgalerie, tel: (30) 266-28-53, closed Mondays. Continuing: "George Grosz." A retrospective of 50 paintings and 250 works on paper. Grosz was a founding member of the Dada group in Berlin in the 1920s. His works depict life in his native Berlin and in his adopted second home, New York. The exhibition will travel to Düsseldorf.

JAPAN

Tokyo
Iseian Museum, tel: (3) 33-52-11-36, closed Wednesdays. To Feb. 27: "Robert Longo." This exhibit, dedicated to a colleague and contemporary of Cindy Sherman and Charles Clough, is representative of the art-

ist's fascination with contemporary urban situations. The display revolves around an installation titled "Men in the Cities." National Museum of Modern Art, tel: (3) 3214-2561, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "Isamu Noguchi." Features more than 2,500 sketches by the Japanese sculptor. National Museum of Western Art, tel: (3) 3828-5131, closed Mondays. To March 5: "German Prints During the Reformation." Includes works by Dürer and Cranach.

LUXEMBOURG

Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, tel: 479-330-214, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "J.M.W. Turner: Views of Luxembourg." Approximately 20 watercolors created after Turner's visit to Luxembourg in 1838.

NETHERLANDS

Rotterdam
Museum voor Volkenkunde, tel: (10) 411-2201, closed Mondays. To May 28: "The Emergence of Indonesia: Photographs by Cas Oorthuys and Charles Bronger." As Indonesia celebrates the 50th anniversary of its independence, a display of 80 photographs, taken in Indonesia between 1947 and 1949, which reflect the de-colonization process of this country.

SPAIN

Madrid
Museo del Prado, tel: (1) 420-28-36, closed Mondays. To April 30: To celebrate its 175th anniversary, the Prado displays a range of Spanish drawings selected from its own collections. Drawings dating from the

15th to the 18th century are by Juan Guss, Gaspar Becerra, Juan de Juanes, and Ribera, among others.

SWEDEN

Stockholm
Nationalmuseum, tel: (8) 666-4250, closed Mondays. To May 1: "Stilleben." A selection of works by still life artists from the mid-16th century to the present time. It includes Flemish "vanitas," kitchen scenes by Zurbaran, "natures mortes" by Chardin and 20th-century still lifes by Morandi, Braque and Picasso, among others.

SWITZERLAND

Pully/Lausanne
Musée d'Art Contemporain, tel: (21) 729-91-48, closed Mondays. To May 15: "Benetton per Toscana." Presents the various media supporting Benetton's advertising campaigns including billboards and catalogues.

UNITED STATES

Chicago
The Art Institute, tel: (312) 443-3820, open daily. Feb. 18 to May 28: "Gustave Courbet: Urban Impressionist." A commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the painter's death, with 88 paintings and 28 works on paper.

New Haven, Connecticut
Yale Center for British Art, tel: (203) 432-2850, closed Mondays. To April 9: "Barbara Hepworth." More than 70 carvings and bronzes, and 30 drawings spanning nearly 50 years of the sculptor's career. Barbara Hepworth, together with Henry Moore and Ben Nicholson, brought international recognition to British sculpture. The exhibition will travel to Toronto.

New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. To May 14: "R. B. Kitaj: A Retrospective." 100 works by the American artist who lived and worked in London for more than three decades. Themes refer to Kitaj's years as a merchant seaman, to the history of the artist's Jewish heritage. The exhibition will travel to Los Angeles. Coinciding with the Metropolitan retrospective, Marlborough Gallery will be exhibiting recent works until March 4. The New Museum, tel: (212) 219-1222, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 8: "Andres Serrano: Works 1963-1993." Features 50 large-scale photographs, including the early allegorical tableaux, the "bodily fluid" series of abstract compositions, the "Morgue" series of human cadavers, and a selection from the "Objects of Desire" series.

Washington
Corcoran Gallery of Art, tel: (202) 638-1000, closed Mondays. To Feb. 19: "Space, Time and Memory: Photography and Beyond in Japan." Hans Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo.

On Feb. 20: "Kurt Schwitters." Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris. On Feb. 18: "The Collection of Boleslaw and Lina Nawrocki." The National Museum, Warsaw.

On Feb. 19: "Herbert Zangs: Oeuvres 1952-1990." Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris. On Feb. 20: "Countdown to Eternity." Corcoran Gallery, Washington.

CLOSING SOON

To Feb. 19: "Street Style: From Sidewalk to Catwalk, 1940 to Tomorrow." Victoria & Albert Museum, London.

On Feb. 19: "Space, Time and Memory: Photography and Beyond in Japan." Hans Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo.

On Feb. 20: "Kurt Schwitters." Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris.

On Feb. 18: "The Collection of Boleslaw and Lina Nawrocki." The National Museum, Warsaw.

On Feb. 19: "Herbert Zangs: Oeuvres 1952-1990." Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris.

On Feb. 20: "Countdown to Eternity." Corcoran Gallery, Washington.

AT A GLANCE: GOOD TRAVEL DEALS

Carrier/Hotel	Location	Deal
ALLSON HOTEL	Singapore	Business Package provides room for 350 Singapore dollars (\$240) - plus 10 percent service - welcome drink and fruit platter, American buffet breakfast, late checkout until 3 P.M. and a credit of 30 dollars a night toward food and beverage, phone calls and faxes or laundry. Until March 31.
AIR CANADA/RADISSON HOTELS	Canada	Aeroplan FFP members booking rack, corporate or worldwide-hospitality-program rate at any Radisson in Canada receive 1,000 Aeroplan miles instead of 500. Until April 16.
BEST WESTERN	Massachusetts	Winter Ski Package at Black Swann Inn in Lee, Massachusetts, includes room for two for one night, dinner and Continental breakfast and one-day lift tickets to Jiminy Peak in Hancock or Buttemut Basin in Great Barrington for \$199. Until March 31.
HERITAGE HOTEL	Manila	Single and double executive-floor rooms for \$135 a night include Continental breakfast, local telephone calls and pressing of a suit or dress each day.
HILTON	Europe	Two for One weekend promotion offers two nights for price of one, plus breakfast, at hotels in 27 cities.
HILTON	Hong Kong	Executive Privilege Package: 1,750 Hong Kong dollars (\$225) a night for a single or double on executive floor includes breakfast, afternoon tea and cocktails, use of two conference rooms, health club and use of portable phone. Until April 30.
HILTON/CONRAD	Worldwide	Pay with an American Express card and earn both double Hilton HHonors points and double miles with partner airlines in Double Double Dip promotion. Until April 30.
JAPAN AIRLINES	Worldwide	Members of JAL frequent-flyer programs now earn 1,000 points per stay at 38 Nikko hotels.
MOVENPICK HOTEL	Beijing	Single or twin rooms are \$73 a night, with 10-day advance booking. Until March 31.
OKURA HOTEL	Tokyo	Business Plan offers savings of around 20 percent: a room-only rate of 28,500 yen (\$265) plus tax, or an inclusive rate of 32,000 yen with taxes, service and breakfast. Until March 31.
THE ORIENTAL	Singapore	Executive-floor singles \$145 and doubles \$165 a night with American breakfast, fruit and flowers and 6 P.M. checkout. Until March 31.
PASSAGES	Worldwide	Members of Passages FFP can now earn points with Delta Air Lines, Diners Club and All Nippon Airways.
RAIL PASS	Japan	A seven-day Japan Rail Pass costs 27,800 yen (\$280) for unlimited travel on any JR service, including the Bullet train, except the Nozomi.
RITZ-CARLTON	New York	Winter in the City package for \$350 per night in "superior" room and \$425 per night in Central Park-view room (single or double) includes sweatshirts, cocktails, American breakfast and use of fitness center. Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Until April 2.

Although the IHT carefully checks these offers, please be forewarned that some travel agents may be unaware of them, or unable to book them.

Herald Tribune

Power players get more out of iht.

You tell us you spend an enjoyable 30 minutes engrossed in your paper.†
You also tell us that on average, you have an annual household income of **US\$ 147,600.***

It seems then, that our pages are the perfect place for you to decide where to start spending some of it. (Our regular Leisure section, perhaps?)
And the perfect place for our advertisers to get more out of the International Herald Tribune, too.

For summaries of the surveys from which these facts are taken, please call, in Europe, James McLeod on (33-1) 46 37 93 81; in Asia, Andrew Thomas on (65) 223 6478; in the Americas, Richard Lynch on (212) 752 3890.

*Source: 1994 Survey '94. †Source: Survey '94.

INTERNATIONAL

Israel to Ease Border Strictures

Rabin Also Seeks to Create Jobs in Territories

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — In an attempt to revive stalled Middle East peace talks, Israel agreed Thursday to loosen border restrictions that have kept many thousands of Palestinians out of work, and said it was ready for "intense negotiations" with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Israelis announced that starting next week they would allow 10,000 laborers from the Gaza Strip and 5,000 from the West Bank to return to jobs that they had held in Israel until the borders were shut last month, after a Palestinian suicide bombing that killed 21 Israelis.

The numbers were far smaller than the 50,000 or more Palestinians who entered Israel each day before the bombing.

But easing the entry ban, if only by a little, was the top priority for Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, and he left a meeting Thursday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at Gaza's northern edge having accomplished something.

In addition, Mr. Rabin said he was ready to immediately set up at least five industrial parks inside the territories, to create jobs for Palestinians as substitutes for work in Israel.

"If the problem there isn't solved, there will be distress, unemployment and even hunger, and this can create problems that will influence security," the Israeli prime minister said.

Mr. Rabin also said he had suggested that the Palestinians rapidly expand their self-rule authority by taking over the town of Jenin, in the northern tier of the West Bank. The Palestinian Authority led by Mr. Arafat now controls only Gaza and the small West Bank district of Jericho.

But the prime minister was prepared to put the Palestinians in charge only of municipal services and economic affairs, keeping security in Israeli hands. Israel's armed forces would stay in Jenin

as well as in the rest of the West Bank besides Jericho.

From Mr. Arafat's vantage, it was a bad deal. Since his aim is to get the Israeli Army out and to hold Palestinian elections, he did not show "a great deal of enthusiasm" for the proposal, as an Israeli official put it.

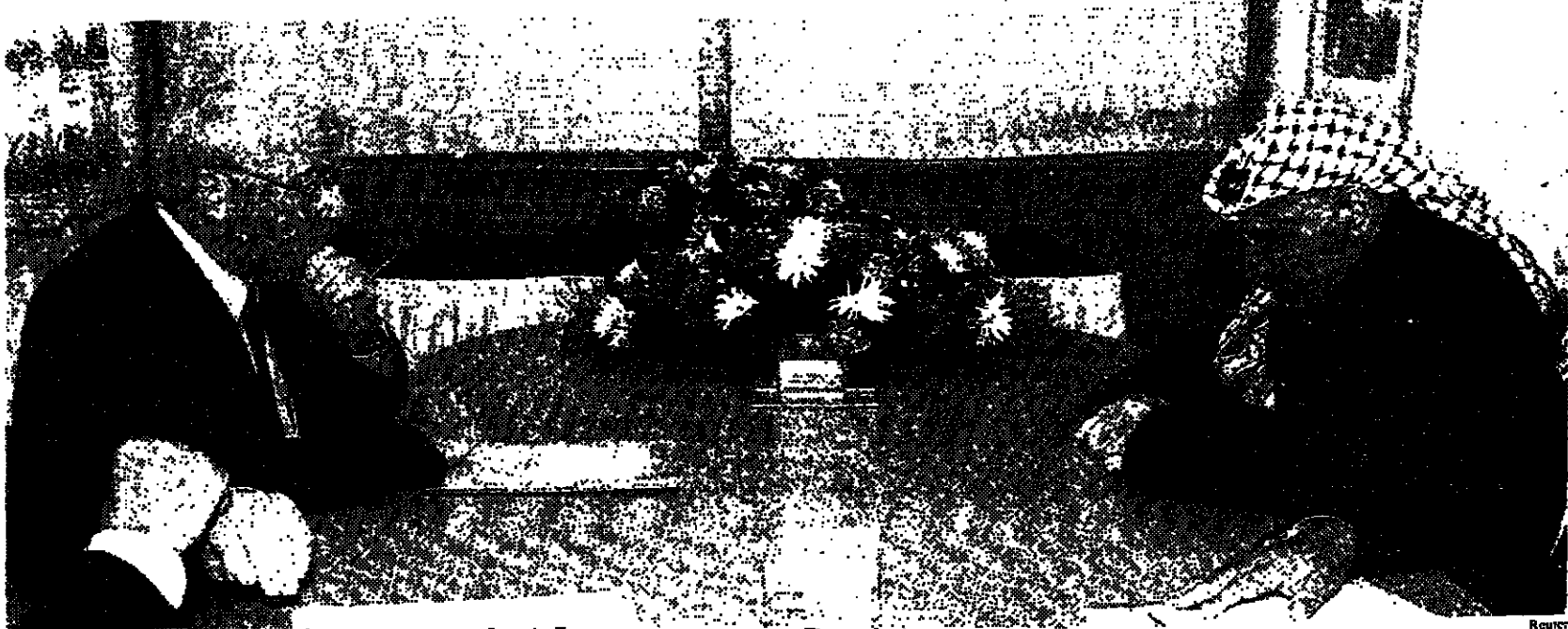
The Palestinian leader's reaction suggested that the two sides still have a long way to go before coming to terms on the basic issue in extending Palestinian self-rule: how to solve the complex problem of moving Israeli soldiers in the West Bank.

Jewish settlements and Arab towns stand explosively close by jowl in many places, and a series of Islamic suicide attacks that have claimed almost 60 Israeli lives over the last few months has hardly persuaded Mr. Rabin that he can easily withdraw his soldiers without raising safety fears and damaging his already tenuous standing in opinion polls.

A senior aide to Mr. Arafat, Tayeb Abdul Rahim, said the Palestinian Authority was ready to accept a "gradual redeployment" of soldiers as long as it did not take longer than three months. But an official close to Mr. Rabin said there had been no discussion of that at the meeting Thursday.

Participants said that there were fewer tensions than in other recent meetings between the two leaders. Mr. Arafat avoided reporters, but Mr. Rabin said both sides had agreed to hold "intense negotiations so as to overcome our differences on security issues, elections redeployment, empowerment."

To the PLO, reaching quick agreement on these matters is crucial, for popular support has been melting away as the months passed without tangible progress on stretching Palestinian rule beyond the narrow, troubled confines of Gaza and Jericho. Elections, for example, are more than seven months overdue, with no date in sight.



Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat meeting Thursday in Gaza, where the Israeli leader agreed to let some Palestinians cross the border to jobs in Israel.

Algerian Islamic Guerrillas Carry Out Raid in Tunisia

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

PARIS — Algerian Islamic fundamentalists launched an attack on neighboring Tunisia, killing at least five Tunisian border guards before seizing their weapons and car and slipping back into Algerian territory a few days ago, it was confirmed here Thursday by French and Algerian affairs experts.

Tracts from the Armed Islamic Group, one of the most

violent armed groups that has been fighting to topple the Algerian government since 1992, claimed responsibility for the attack.

Tunisia denied the report, saying it was meant to damage the country's stability, which rests in large part on tourism.

Tunisia has been far and away the Arab country that has been most successful in stemming the tide of fundamentalism sweeping the region. It enforces a total separation of Islam from the state, banning

the wearing of the veil by women at work and school and jailing Islamic activists who express religious or political opinions.

But the North African country shares a long border with Algeria, which has been in turmoil for three years.

Although Tunisian authorities have taken draconian measures to prevent any spillover of the conflict, Islamic fundamentalists in Algeria have repeatedly warned Tunisia to stop cooperating with other North

African and Arab countries in the fight against fundamentalism.

A spokesman for the Tunisian government, Moncef Ben Temessek, director of the Tunisian Information Agency, said Thursday that the border incident had been nothing more than a "simple traffic accident."

Algerian affairs experts, however, said an attack was launched last Saturday by the Islamic Armed Group at Tamerza, in the southern part of

Tunisia, to embroil that country in the Algerian conflict and frighten away tourists.

In a fax sent to several Arab dailies, the Armed Islamic Group of Algeria said its guerrillas had carried out the raid, killing seven Tunisian border guards.

The Armed Islamic Group, reckoned to be the most violent of several Islamic armed factions battling the Algerian Army, said its men had infiltrated a few kilometers inside Tunisia.

YELTSIN: Defending a War

Continued from Page 1

protection for domestic industry and said the state must still subsidize agriculture.

He urged restraint on spending, but said the government must find a way to restore the inflation-ravaged savings of millions of Russians, must fully finance the military and must raise salaries because of the high cost of living — a circular prescription for more inflation.

"The social costs of economic policy are still too high," Mr. Yeltsin said, urging a nationwide minimum standard of living and saying, "1995 must become the year of filling economic reform with social content."

But since he first made the same plea in December 1993, the government has done little to change its spending to reduce support of production and create a social security net.

Mr. Yeltsin also railed against crime and corruption, especially in the huge bureaucracy that has been a bane of Russia since long before Gogol wrote "Dead Souls."

At the same time, his own presidential apparatus, a form of court, has grown to include several thousand officials who are seeking ways to finance themselves outside the budget and the scrutiny of Parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin blamed soft sentences and weak judges for hindering the fight against crime, though judges argue that many laws needed to deal with the new world of economic crime have never been passed, so cannot be enforced.

On Chechnya, Mr. Yeltsin said, "Our state turned out to be unprepared for effective military action," adding, "This is the cause of casualties, here lies the roots of the violations of the rights of citizens in the course of the military operations."

But he dropped from his text the following: "We must transform the destructive energy of the Chechen crisis into the potential for forthcoming changes in the institutions of power, in the army and in political and state practice."

Mr. Yeltsin also repeated his opposition to NATO expansion.



Boris N. Yeltsin accepting documents from the ultranationalist Vladimir V. Zhirinovskiy on Thursday after the Russian president's state-of-the-nation speech to Parliament.

Moscow in May? Unlikely, Aides Say

By Douglas Jehl
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Aides to President Clinton said Thursday that he was not inclined to accept an invitation to travel to Moscow in May for a summit meeting with President Boris N. Yeltsin.

Even after praising much of what Mr. Yeltsin said in his state of the nation speech before the Parliament on Thursday, the aides said that Mr. Clinton would prefer to delay his next trip to Moscow, for two reasons.

For one, they said, Mr. Clinton wants to avoid any likelihood of being in Russia while troops remain in the secessionist Chechen republic.

Secondly, the date proposed by Mr. Yeltsin

would put Mr. Clinton at the center of ceremonies celebrating the allied victory over Nazi Germany, and the president might then be expected to attend V-E celebrations in other European capitals even as Congress is pressuring him to direct his attention at the United States.

It has been a full month since Mr. Yeltsin extended his invitation. But the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, would say Thursday only that diplomats from the two countries were still discussing the best time for a meeting between the two leaders.

But Mr. McCurry did suggest that some date after Mr. Yeltsin's May 8 recommendation "might be more helpful in terms of the relationship," particularly "if an impediment like the conflict in Chechnya is successfully resolved."

PESO: Rush to the Credit Line as Currency Weakens

Continued from Page 1

more missed payments by indebted Mexican companies — renewed fears among investors that Mexico's liquidity crisis was escalating and sent the peso into a tailspin against the dollar Wednesday.

In New York, the dollar ended at 6.0850 pesos, up 12 cents on the day. But the dollar was down from a high of about 6.10 pesos earlier in the day, as the diplomatic and financial maneuvering aided the Mexican currency.

Mexican stocks slumped, however, and the anxiety spread to stock markets in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, whose markets also dropped even though they do not have Mexico's short-term debt problems.

The debt problems largely arose because Mexico ran low on foreign currencies, reflecting its big trade deficit. The country had been importing goods with an overvalued peso, keeping its living standards high but making it vulnerable to a financial crisis as soon as investors began to worry about the foreign reserves.

What is happening in Mexico now is a cash crunch that had been foreseen as sky-high interest rates to protect the peso from falling squeezed Mexico's banks as well as companies. The rates were up to 40 percent Wednesday after the Sidek announcement.

Earlier completion of the rescue package might have forestalled this, because its purpose is to convert short-term foreign debt into loans of three to five years that can be paid back as Mexico's trade deficit narrows and its economy grows. But the delay has sapped confidence in Mexico's financial structure.

"It's not a peso problem any more," said Lawrence Goodman, Latin American specialist at Salomon Brothers Inc. in New York. "It's a liquidity problem now. The government has been helping the banks pay off their tesobonos by exchanging them for short-term peso debt, and now others need cash. It's a problem of too many pesos chasing not enough dollars."

Geoffrey Dennis of Bear, Stearns & Co. said he believed Grupo Sidek was trying to force the Mexican government into offering some kind of financial bridge so that it could repay its dollar debt later, when Mexico's currency had recovered and the peso cost of repayment would be reduced.

"We do not believe this is the first of a long series of defaults," Mr. Dennis said. Indeed, several Mexican companies issued statements that they were ready to pay their dollar debts or had already deposited money in American banks to do so.

The tesobono redemption planned for next week is being

done "with the purpose of continuing reducing the number of tesobonos outstanding," the Mexican government said.

A U.S. Treasury official said Washington supported Mexico's plan to redeem the tesobonos. "The Mexican authorities have consulted with us. The Treasury and the Federal Reserve endorse this use of part of the resources that were provided to Mexico earlier," the official said.

Robert D. Hormatz, a former U.S. financial official and the vice chairman of Goldman Sachs (International) Inc., said the redemption plan was "a confidence-builder, because it gives investors a sense of stability in the market, that the government is able to buy back these things."

Mr. Hormatz called the move "a time-honored tradition" that when an issuer thinks the market price of its outstanding bonds is too low, it buys it back. "Just like a stock buyback by a corporation," he said the likely message being sent to markets was, "Look, the Treasury, the Fed and the Mexican authorities are saying there are a lot of bumps, but we are working together."

But a European financial official, who did not want to be identified, said: "The technical measures alone may not do the trick. There is a huge amount of money available, but the real question is how fast Mexico can come up with a convincing economic program."

This will be the third time this year the Mexican government has offered to buy back tesobonos before they mature, according to Bloomberg Business News. On Jan. 16, Mexico's central bank repurchased \$1.06 billion; a week later it bought \$1.43 billion.

The total amount of tesobonos outstanding is more than \$20 billion, Bloomberg added, citing Mexican government data. There are a little more than \$20 billion of tesobonos outstanding, down from \$30 billion at the end of 1994.

By redeeming the tesobonos, the government aims to bolster the peso. Holders of tesobonos have been reluctant to roll over their investments in past weeks, demanding dollars when the securities matured.

KARBALA: Restoring Mosques

Continued from Page 1

gious institutions, by destroying them if necessary.

Among their evidence is the government's urban renewal effort in central Karbala, which has included the razing of historic houses and Shiite community centers around the mosques.

"It is tantamount to someone going to the center of Rome, destroying all the monasteries and the churches and replacing them with casinos and restaurants," said Yusef Khoie, whose grandfather, Ayatollah Abu Qasim Khoie, was a leading Shiite spiritual figure until his death in 1992.

Mr. Khoie, who runs a London-based foundation, said in a telephone interview that the Iraqi government has rebuffed the foundation's offer to help finance rebuilding of the community centers.

The debate over the development plan is another twist in the government's continuing struggle with its Shiite population, elements of which rose up against Mr. Saddam's rule in

Israel's Ex-Cairo Envoy Named to Amman Post

Reuters

JERUSALEM — Israel has appointed its first ambassador to Jordan, four months after signing a peace treaty with the kingdom, a Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The former Israeli ambassador to Egypt, Shimon Shamir, will head for Jordan in a month, pending confirmation by the Foreign Ministry appointments committee, the official said.

March 1991, during the chaotic aftermath to the Gulf War, and briefly controlled major southern cities.

The government has since tried to create an impression of harmony with the Shiites, beginning restoration work on the shrines within months of crushing the rebellion. Today the Hussein and Abbas mosques gleam as brightly as ever.

Reconstruction has been followed by a surge in visits, which peaked last September with the arrival of about 8,000 members of the Shiite Bohra sect, based in Bombay.

But to Mr. Khoie and other opposition critics, the reconstruction belies a government crackdown.

Recent UN reports on human rights in Iraq have cited the regime's failure to account for 105 Shiite religious scholars and family members arrested in March 1991, and there are accusations of government involvement in the death of Mohammed Taqi Khoie, a son of the late ayatollah who died in July in a car crash.

FRANCE: Balladur Unbeatable? Not So Sure Now

Continued from Page 1

government. Although the payments from the company, GSI, a data-processing services company, was not illegal, Mr. Balladur's spokesmen have never explained what he did to earn the salary or accounted for their own earlier denial that he had links with the company at the time. He reportedly was paid 100,000 francs a month.

Regulatory authorities disclosed Thursday that Mr. Balladur has enjoyed a huge advantage over his rivals in television coverage, mainly on France's most-watched station, Channel One. This allegation of favoritism carries a special political tinge because the station is owned by Bouygues, the country's biggest construction company, and construction is a sector deeply implicated in recent corruption scandals.

It is too soon to tell whether

the cumulative impact of these incidents will shift the course of the campaign or even stick to Mr. Balladur, who until now has enjoyed immunity from suspicion of corruption and cronyism.

But the risks that the new mood carries for him were pinpointed by a French journalist, Denis Jeambar of Le Point magazine. In contrast to the ups-and-downs of American presidential elections, the journalist said, "French candidates who lose a commanding lead never get it back."

Mr. Balladur, who has stuck with his bland, almost bloodless style on the assumption that it is reassuring for the French, made a poor impression this week in presenting a vague presidential program.

So far, Mr. Chirac has failed to make much headway with his attacks on Mr. Balladur, partly

because he has to contend with criticism that his personal ambitions have led him to flirt with the French left. His campaign may turn on the impact of a speech Friday laying out his own program.

Although most voters expect Mr. Balladur to become president, there has been consistent evidence in polls that only about one-third intend to vote for him. That leaves a floating vote that might deny him the election.

For investment information
Read
the MONEY REPORT
every Saturday
in the IHT

BRAIN: View of Brain Activity Proves Women and Men Think Differently

Continued from Page 1

that women's brains are better at this task than men's, or vice versa.

Although the men and women used their brains differently, she added, the fact that they sounded out words equally well means that "the brain has a lot of different ways to get to the same result."

Dr. Elizabeth Hampson, a

neuroscientist at the University of Western Ontario, said the finding "provides definitive evidence" that men and women can use their brains differently to perform the same task. "Nothing was conclusive until now," she said. It means, she said, "we should be open to that possibility in other areas of the brain as well."

Dr. Shaywitz said she was

particularly surprised to see differences between men and women in decoding words. Reading, she said, has nothing to do with basic survival skills or reproduction, for which men and women might have developed different brain functions during the course of evolution.

"This is a difference that involves cognition," she said. "And it is the most complex of

human functions. Reading is the pinnacle of what humans can do."

It is a huge step in a comprehensive research program that is allowing scientists to understand why some children and adults have such difficulty learning to read and it has immediate implications for tests for reading disabilities and strategies to overcome them, he said.

The conference,
Europe's leading energy forum,
will be addressed by oil industry
experts from the world over.



OIL & MONEY

London · November 2 & 3, 1995

The Oil Daily Group

Herald Tribune

For further information
on the conference, please contact:

Brenda Erdmann Hagerty
International Herald Tribune
63 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JH, England
Tel: (44 171) 836 4802
Fax: (44 171) 836 0717

سكنا من الاصل

MARKET DIARY

Blue-Chips Inch Up To a Record High

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — U.S. blue-chip stocks edged up to a second consecutive record high Thursday, but the broader market slumped as investors took profits amid concerns the market may have topped.

A last-minute surge took the Dow Jones industrial average

Foreign Exchange

135 points higher to 3,987.52, but losing issues outnumbered gainers by a 13-to-8 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Dow was underpinned by sentiment that corporate earnings would benefit from a sustained economic expansion, but the broader market was unconvincing.

"The market's had a fairly extended advance without much of a comeback," said Ricky Harrington, market analyst at Interstate/Johnson Lane. "I don't think it's a foregone conclusion we'll go through 4,000 here."

Many investors are skeptical about whether the Federal Reserve Board has finished raising interest rates. Higher rates can choke off corporate profit.

While Robert Forrester, president of the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank, said Thursday that the central bank's rate increases two weeks ago may be the last in this economic cycle, the Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, said Wednesday that he was still concerned about inflation and questioned recent signs that the economy was slowing.

A weak dollar and a downturn in Treasury bond prices also dragged on the stock market. The price of the benchmark 30-year issue slipped 5/32 point, to 100.232, taking the yield to 7.57 percent, up from 7.56 percent Wednesday.

RJR Nabisco was the most active issue on the Big Board, slipping 1/4 to 5 1/2 to a day after announcing its first common stock dividend since 1989 and proposing a reverse stock split to shrink the number of shares outstanding.

Hewlett-Packard led a rally in technology issues, rising 10 1/2 to 115 1/2 after reporting stronger first-quarter net income than analysts expected, marking the fifth straight quarter of results that exceeded expectations.

Hewlett-Packard said its printer business remained strong, which lifted Adobe Systems 2 1/2 to 34 1/2 because Adobe receives royalties from laser printer makers that use its Postscript printer language.

Motorola rose 2 1/2 to 64 1/2, and Intel rose 1/2 to 79 1/2.

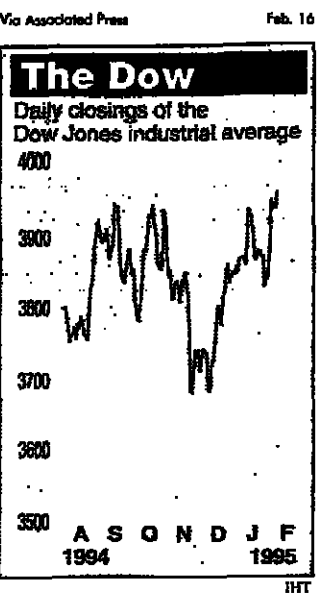
Telephone stocks were weak. AT&T lost 1 1/2 to 51 1/2 on expectations for the company to lower its rates to compete with MCI. MCI fell 1/2 to 19 1/2.

Chemical stocks were weak. Dow Chemical slipped 1 1/2 to 65 1/2 a day after losing a liability case related to breast implants it manufactures.

Monsanto lost 1/2 to 76 1/2, and Union Carbide dropped 1 1/2 to 28 1/2. Baxter International rose 1/2 to 31 after it said its health-care unit was negotiating a distribution agreement with Imre Corp. for its Prosorba product. Imre lost 1/2 to 4 1/2.

Sears rose 1/2 to 47 1/2 after it said it would exchange all of its so-called mandatorily exchangeable preferred shares for common shares. Sears said the exchange should not affect earnings per share.

YPF Sociedad's American depositary receipts lost 1/2 to 19 1/2 in step with weakness in the Argentine stock market. (A.P. Bloomberg, Reuters)



NYSE Most Actives

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
RJR Nab	52,000	51 1/2	51 1/2	-1/4
HPQ	141,000	115 1/2	115 1/2	+10 1/2
INTC	100,000	79 1/2	79 1/2	+1/2
MSFT	67,000	51 1/2	51 1/2	-1 1/2
IBM	45,000	47 1/2	47 1/2	+1/2
GE	40,000	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1 1/2
BA	35,000	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1 1/2
DIS	30,000	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/2
W	25,000	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/2
GO	20,000	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/2

NASDAQ Most Actives

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
MSFT	52,000	51 1/2	51 1/2	-1/4
INTC	100,000	79 1/2	79 1/2	+1/2
IBM	45,000	47 1/2	47 1/2	+1/2
GE	40,000	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1 1/2
BA	35,000	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1 1/2
DIS	30,000	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/2
W	25,000	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/2
GO	20,000	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/2
HPQ	141,000	115 1/2	115 1/2	+10 1/2

AMEX Most Actives

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2
GOV	15,000	15 1/2	15 1/2	+1/2

Market Sales

	Today	Prev.
NYSE	2,100,000	2,000,000
AMEX	1,500,000	1,400,000
NASDAQ	3,500,000	3,400,000

Dow Jones Averages

Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	3987.52	3987.52	3987.52	-1.75
Trans	127.25	127.25	127.25	-1.75
Comp	1247.13	1247.13	1247.13	-2.38

Standard & Poor's Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Industrials	514.55	514.55	+1.39
Technology	564.44	564.44	+2.07
Healthcare	418.82	418.82	+0.78
Finance	255.44	255.44	+0.89
SP 500	452.86	452.86	+1.78

NYSE Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Composite	343.37	343.37	+0.88
Industrials	341.44	341.44	+0.88
Technology	375.44	375.44	+0.88
Finance	215.44	215.44	+0.75

NASDAQ Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Composite	794.12	794.12	-1.75
Technology	814.12	814.12	-1.75
Healthcare	714.12	714.12	-1.75
Finance	614.12	614.12	-1.75

AMEX Index

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Composite	467.50	467.50	-1.17
Industrials	467.50	467.50	-1.17
Technology	467.50	467.50	-1.17
Finance	467.50	467.50	-1.17

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Class	Chg.
30 Bonds	+0.10
10 Industrials	-0.12

NYSE Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
182	147	728
Unchanged	182	147
New Highs	28	3
New Lows	8	4

AMEX Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
22	20	290
Unchanged	22	20
New Highs	16	17
New Lows	7	17

NASDAQ Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
182	147	728
Unchanged	182	147
New Highs	28	3
New Lows	8	4

Spot Commodities

Commodity	Today	Prev.
Crude oil	21.00	21.00
Gold	375.00	375.00
Silver	4.75	4.75
Copper	1.50	1.50
Aluminum	0.90	0.90

Industrials

High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	14.50	14.50	+0.25
Trans	14.50	14.50	+0.25
Comp	14.50	14.50	+0.25

EUROPEAN FUTURES

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Metals

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Financial

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Stock Indexes

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Dividends

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

STOCK

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

U.S. FUTURES

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Grains

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Metals

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Financial

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Stock Indexes

Month	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Mar	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
Apr	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25
May	145.00	145.00	145.00	+0.25

Dividends

Company	Per Amt	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22
Amgen	0.25	2/22	2/22

EUROPE

Deutsche Telekom Moves to Update Its Internet Link

BERLIN — Deutsche Telekom AG announced Thursday plans that could soon give millions of Germans access to the Internet.

Together with a group of companies including International Business Machines Corp. and Microsoft Corp., Telekom has developed software based on Microsoft's Windows that makes its archaic Datex-J system more user-friendly.

Datex-J is a text-based computer network that requires its users to type in lines of text to navigate the unwieldy system.

Online services that use a Windows format, allowing users to point at an item and choose it, have become increasingly popular.

The new service, to be called Telekom Online, will offer subscribers German-language computer services ranging from home shopping to online publications, including many of Germany's leading magazines.

There are an estimated 30 million people connected to the Internet, an international web that links computer networks.

Telekom will distribute free software for Telekom Online to all Datex-J users in order to encourage its usage.

Telekom hopes to head off an invasion of its home market by U.S. online computer services such as CompuServe. The company said it wants to form close ties to an American online network, and prefers Marvel, a service Microsoft plans to make available through a new version of Windows.

It is also talking to AT&T Corp.'s Interchange, to be launched later this year.

"At the moment we are talking to all the big online networks, including Microsoft. We are talking about Marvel," said Horst Gellert, a Telekom board member.

He would give few details about Telekom's plans but said the company wanted to have a strong American partner to share in future U.S. developments in software.

Information Age Session

Ministers from Europe, North America and Japan will meet next Friday in Brussels to talk about strategy for managing the "information society," Reuters reported from Brussels.

The ministerial conference was planned by the G-7 countries — Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United States and Canada — as a forum for addressing the legal, technical and social implications of the rapid expansion and improvement of information technology.

Hosted by the European Commission, the ministers will be advised by more than 40 chief executives from technology companies.

German Quest: Shelf Space

By Miriam Widman
Special to the Herald Tribune

BERLIN — When Werner Kuschla asked a major German supermarket chain whether it would put his company's sausages and cold cuts on its shelves, he was told: "Sure — pay more than 1 million Deutsche marks (\$663,000) and your products will have first priority for shelf space."

"I told them to forget it," said Mr. Kuschla, sales director of Luckenwalder Fleischwaren GmbH, an East German producer. "We don't have that kind of money."

Mr. Kuschla's problem is a common one, say food producers in Eastern Germany who claim their products cannot compete with those of Western producers because of a comparative lack of financial resources and contacts within the countrywide industry.

Buyers for supermarket companies, pointing out that so-called listing fees — upfront payments to retailers to ensure shelf space for products — are required for everyone, insist that no favoritism is shown to West German producers. But those in the East say that a well-established food producer in the West has more money and is in a better position to pay — and to sell products.

Manfred Memmert, director of Süsmoost & Weinkelerei Reichard GmbH, an East German fruit-juice producer, said listing fees of 250,000 DM were commonplace.

And money may be only part of the problem. Mr. Memmert said it was almost impossible for East German producers to get an appointment with a supermarket buyer in the hope of introducing a new product. "I'm still hoping to get my products listed," he said.

Other East German producers have called the system a "supermarket mafia" that caters to richer West German suppliers.

Heinz Fassbender, a director at Rewe AG, a country-wide market chain, said he couldn't think of any measures his company could take to promote East German goods. But he acknowledged that connections were of paramount importance.

Sabine Mielke, a director at Forschungsstelle für den Handel, an independent research group, said that part of the problem was the West German food industry's maturity. She said relative newcomers — such as East German producers — were in the position of having to develop better, more innovative products.

"If you've come up with the 43rd variety of liverwurst, you're not going to make it," she said.

She added that East German producers were virtually unknown in the West and that packaging in the East — usually plain wrappers with little or no design — was often not as eye-catching as that in the West. East German goods have also long had a poor reputation for quality in the West, she said, an image that takes time to live down.

Other analysts said that East German producers were still learning marketing skills that have long been standard in the West.

To help Eastern producers, the state of Brandenburg has supported a handful of stores that have agreed to feature products from Eastern regions.

Horst Faber, president of the State Association for Food Retailers in Brandenburg, said the real problem stemmed from Germany's underdeveloped wholesale sector. He said there had been too much consolidation in Germany's supermarket chains.

Kleinwort Says Bonds Hurt Profit

LONDON — Kleinwort Benson Securities said Thursday that its pretax profit fell 13 percent as a drop in profit from trading stocks and bonds offset gains in fees from merger and advisory work.

The banking company said it earned £97 million (\$151 million) in the year, down from £111.7 million in 1993. The year-end profit included a one-time gain of £9.2 million.

The company raised its 1994 dividend to 21.5 pence a share from 18.5 pence in 1993. But the dividend increase did not overshadow the bottom line for investors, who sent Kleinwort's stock down 8 pence, to 631.

Lord Rockley, chairman of the company, said 1994 had been a successful year given the background of unsettled markets and difficult trading conditions because of a change in interest rate cycles in the United States and Britain.

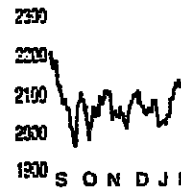


"Although markets have been unsettled, we have achieved an increased share of customer business in all the major equity markets in which we operate," Lord Rockley said.

Kleinwort said income from trading fell to £43.3 million from £104 million in 1993. That drop more than offset an increase in income from fees and commissions, which rose to £310 million from £271.5 million.

Lord Rockley said the environment for trading had not improved so far this year.

"At the moment, it's fair to say that trading conditions and prospects generally are little changed from the latter half of 1994," he said. "What we can actually achieve will depend on the market activity."

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFX)

Investor's Europe					
Frankfurt DAX		London FTSE 100 Index		Paris CAC 40	
					
1994	S O N D J F	1994	S O N D J F	1994	S O N D J F
Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Chang	
Amsterdam	AEX	410.09	413.26	-0.77	
Brussels	Stock Index	7,082.51	7,095.62	-0.04	
Frankfurt	2,135.04	2,115.72	2,138.04	-0.90	
Frankfurt	FAZ	795.81	795.42	+0.05	
Helsinki	HEX	1,822.57	1,833.56	-0.60	
London	Financial Times 30	2,323.50	2,334.80	-0.48	
London	FTSE 100	3,051.10	3,074.90	-0.77	
Madrid	General Index	286.15	288.54	-0.83	
Milan	MBTEL	10494	10596	-1.89	
Paris	CAC 40	1,835.00	1,861.90	-1.44	
Stockholm	SX 16	1,615.24	1,632.32	-1.05	
Vienna	ATX Index	976.71	985.47	-0.89	
Zurich	SBS	820.57	825.11	-0.49	

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
IBM	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.00	116.00	117.00	116.50	800,000
Microsoft	60.00	58.00	59.00	58.50	900,000	58.00	56.00	57.00	56.50	600,000
Apple	40.00	38.00	39.00	38.50	700,000	38.00	36.00	37.00	36.50	500,000
Oracle	30.00	28.00	29.00	28.50	400,000	28.00	26.00	27.00	26.50	300,000
Sun	20.00	18.00	19.00	18.50	300,000	18.00	16.00	17.00	16.50	200,000
Novell	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.25	200,000	14.00	13.00	13.50	13.25	150,000
Lotus	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.25	150,000	9.00	8.00	8.50	8.25	100,000
McAfee	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.25	100,000	7.00	6.00	6.50	6.25	80,000
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
Amazon	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.25	1,500,000	14.00	13.00	13.50	13.25	1,000,000
Yahoo	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.25	1,200,000	9.00	8.00	8.50	8.25	800,000
Excite	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.25	1,000,000	7.00	6.00	6.50	6.25	700,000
Hotmail	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	800,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	600,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	700,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	500,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	600,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	400,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	500,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	300,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	400,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	200,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	300,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	150,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	200,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	100,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
VeriSign	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.25	50,000	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000
Comcast	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.25	40,000	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000
Time Warner	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.25	30,000	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000
AT&T	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.25	20,000	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.25	15,000	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000
Qwest	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.60	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000
Sprint	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.30	5,000	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.12	2,000

سكنا من الاصل

ASIA/PACIFIC

Packer Says He Won't Settle for Just 15% of Fairfax

Bloomberg Business News
SYDNEY — Kerry Packer, the Australian financier, defended Thursday his recent purchase of shares in the newspaper concern John Fairfax Holdings Ltd., saying he wasn't about to be outgunned by rival media moguls Rupert Murdoch and Conrad Black.

"I see in the paper that Rupert Murdoch is saying he thinks he might buy a bit more than 5 percent," Mr. Packer said. "I see Conrad Black saying that he wants to go to 35 percent. I'm not going to be stuck there at 15 percent with everybody moving around me."

Mr. Packer controls Publishing & Broadcasting Ltd., which runs the television concern Nine Network Australia Ltd. and is prohibited under cross-ownership laws from owning more than 15 of another medium, such as a newspaper.

But he has spent an estimated \$20 million Australian dollars (\$29.8 million) to raise his Fairfax stake to about 17.2 percent in open-market purchases that began Friday.

Mr. Packer, Australia's wealthiest man, is expected to argue in court if necessary — that he does not have control of Fairfax because he is not the largest shareholder and has no representative on its board.

Mr. Black, who controls newspapers in Canada through Hollinger Inc. and in Britain through Telegraph PLC, of which he is chairman, holds 25 percent of Fairfax. Australia's government last year allowed him to raise his stake from the 15 percent limit previously set for foreigners. Mr. Black has signaled that he may seek permission to raise that stake to 35 percent to give his holding more stability.

Mr. Murdoch, chairman of Sydney-based News Corp. and an Australian native who became a U.S. citizen, owns 5 percent of Fairfax. He recently said he might consider going to 10 percent.

The jockeying by the three media heavyweights has triggered speculation that an all-out takeover battle might develop. Fairfax shares closed Thursday at a seven-week high of 2.80 dollars, up 8 cents.

Stock's Mysterious Surge Malaysian Issue Defies Gravity and Logic

Bloomberg Business News
KUALA LUMPUR — Stock in a sprawling conglomerate called Multi-Purpose Holdings Bhd. has risen more than 80 percent in three weeks on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange, and nobody admits to knowing why.

About 300 million shares, equal to about 40 percent of the company's outstanding stock, have changed hands in that time. Multi-Purpose stock has helped pull the Kuala Lumpur Composite Index on a 17 percent climb since Jan. 24.

On Wednesday, Multi-Purpose rose 52 sen to 4.92 ringgit on the Malaysian exchange, its highest price since Sept. 28, 1994. Then on Thursday, the stock fell 24 sen, but recorded 27.9 million trades — its busiest day since Oct. 4, 1993. In the six months between March and August of last year, average daily volume was just 2.3 million shares a day.

If anybody knows what is going on, he or she is not talking. A popular story is that Quek Leong Chan, chairman of another big conglomerate, Hong Leong Co. (Malaysia) Bhd., is making a takeover bid for Multi-Purpose.

"That rumor surfaces in almost every rally," said David Yung at Arab-Malaysian Securities Bhd. T.K. Lim, chairman of Multi-Purpose, declined to comment on the company's stock activity. Mr. Quek of Hong Leong did not return phone calls regarding the matter.

Multi-Purpose has half a dozen publicly traded subsidiaries and associates and has gambling, real estate, banking and other activities through a total of 70 associated companies.

Thursday, the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange queried Multi-Purpose on a story about the rumored takeover that appeared in Edge, a local newspaper, on Monday. The company has until Monday to respond.

Traders liken the situation to one in 1993, when Idris Hydraulic (Malaysia) Bhd., a financial services company, rose more than elevenfold on the market, leading the composite index to double in value in the course of the year.

"I think most people would have noticed by now: When Multi-Purpose turns, the market will go with it," said Paul Sim, senior analyst at JB Securities. "It's leading the market. In 1993, it was Idris."

There are many who doubt the Hong Leong takeover story. Whoever believes it "is a nut," a dealer at a local securities firm said. An analyst at a foreign stock brokerage concern said the speculation might have started Feb. 8 when, he said, Mr. Lim of Multi-Purpose was seen at the office of Mr. Quek Hong Leong's chief executive.

One rumor is that someone, or some group, has been manipulating the share price. Local newspapers have generally shied away from making definitive statements. An exception was the weekly Edge, which reported on Monday that Mr. Lim planned to give up Multi-Purpose to focus on investments in China. The paper suggested Mr. Quek was another listed company to provide access to the capital markets.

The paper did not quote company executives.

Pioneer Considers Write-Off Of Carolco

Bloomberg Business News
TOKYO — Pioneer Electronic Corp. is considering a write-off of about \$86 million in goodwill associated with its 1990 acquisition of a stake in Carolco Pictures Inc., the company's managing director said Thursday.

Masaaki Sano said the company was "examining the business conditions of Carolco" and would make a decision on whether to write off the debt before the financial year ended in March.

He was speaking at a news conference announcing the company's results for the third quarter of last year. He said Pioneer had "no intention of selling the stake or of providing more financial aid to Carolco."

The Japanese consumer-electronics maker owns 41.2 percent of Carolco, an unprofitable Hollywood movie company whose hits include "Basic Instinct" and "Terminator 2." Last October, Pioneer gave \$8 million in emergency financing to Carolco after the company ran out of money to continue making pictures.

Analysts said the \$86 million would not be a major drain on Pioneer's earnings, and a one-time solution would help avoid a long, drawn-out leaking of red ink.

Pioneer's troubles are the latest in a series affecting Japanese investors in Hollywood. In November, Sony Corp. wrote off \$2.7 billion in debt associated with its 1989 acquisition of Columbia Pictures in what amounted to an admission that it had paid too much for the studio.

Before the Carolco announcement, Pioneer said improved sales of its consumer-electronics products helped push group net profit up nearly 50 percent in the quarter ended Dec. 31. Pioneer stock fell to 40 yen to 2,090.

Investor's Asia				
Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong Hang Seng	10354	2400	2100	+0.37
Singapore Straits Times	2200	2100	2000	+1.20
Sydney All Ordinaries	1860.20	1,842.90	1,842.90	+0.94
Tokyo Nikkei 225	17,785.00	17,991.00	17,991.00	-1.15
Kuala Lumpur Composite	989.99	979.28	979.28	+1.09
Bangkok SET	1,308.22	1,286.43	1,286.43	+1.69
Seoul Composite Stock	923.49	926.09	926.09	-0.26
Taipei Weighted Price	6,648.55	6,576.25	6,576.25	+1.07
Manila PSE	2,633.08	2,620.68	2,620.68	+0.47
Jakarta Stock Index	455.59	458.45	458.45	-0.19
New Zealand NZSE-40	1,988.21	1,987.97	1,987.97	+1.03
Bombay National Index	1,668.38	1,690.51	1,690.51	-1.31

Sources: Reuters, AFP. Intra-day Market Trends

Very briefly:

- India's state-owned banks raised their prime lending rates to 15 percent from 14 percent. The Bombay stock market's National Index fell 1 percent, to 1,668.38.
- Yamaichi Securities Co.'s research unit, citing reconstruction demand after the Kobe earthquake, raised its forecast for growth in Japan's real gross domestic product for the year ending in March 1995 to 3.1 percent from 2.4 percent.
- Agence France-Presse, Australian Associated Press Information Services Pty., the Nihon Keizai Shimbun and Pearson PLC's Financial Times are to jointly create AFX-Asia, an electronic news service focusing on business in the Pacific rim.
- Bankers Trust Australia Ltd., a unit of Bankers Trust New York Corp., said net profit for 1994 fell 5 percent to 259.8 Australian dollars (\$194 million); the company said unusually low tax expenses in 1993 contributed to the fall.
- Taiwan, helped by the global recovery, registered economic growth of 6.51 percent in 1994; the economy grew at an annual rate of 7.01 percent in the fourth quarter.
- Thai Airways International Ltd. said profit for its first quarter, ended Dec. 31, fell 14.5 percent to 932 million baht (\$37 million).
- Hong Kong manufacturers generally expect a mild increase in order volumes in 1995, but profit margins are likely to shrink compared with last year, according to a government survey.
- PT Indosat, Indonesia's state-owned telecommunications company, said 1994 profit rose 15 percent, to 289 billion rupiah (\$130 million). Revenue rose 19 percent, to 909.3 billion rupiah.
- Mitsubishi Electric Co. is to spend \$306 million on a production line for 16-megabit dynamic random-access memory chips at a plant in Alsdorf, Germany.
- China Foreign Exchange Center will start trading the Japanese yen March 1.

AFP, AP, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, Reuters

Coles Myer Ltd. To Dispose of Buyback Stock

Bloomberg Business News
MELBOURNE — Coles Myer Ltd., the Australian retailer, said Thursday it would dispose of 147 million shares that remained from its July 1994 buyback of Kmart Corp.'s stake in the company.

Coles Myer said the disposal would involve canceling two-thirds of the shares. In July, Kmart said it was getting out of Australia and sold its 27.6 million shares back to Coles Myer.

"It's all finished now," said George Batsakis, an analyst at the brokerage J.B. Warr & Son. "They can just go back to running the business and trying to get the best out of the retail market."

The buyback, the largest in Australia's history, cost Coles Myer more than 1 billion Australian dollars (\$746 million).

Coles Myer shares closed at 4.35 dollars in Sydney, up 5 cents. Separately, the Australian food concern Goodman Fielder Wattie Ltd. said it would sell its 64 percent stake in Goodman Fielder Asia Holdings Ltd., a Singapore-based subsidiary, to a group of investors for \$132 million.

A Changing of the Guard at Shougang

Bloomberg Business News
BEIJING — The chairman of Shougang Corp., Zhou Guanwu, has stepped down from the helm of China's largest steelmaker, a company that has had the patronage of Deng Xiaoping.

Mr. Zhou has had full financial autonomy and freedom from bureaucratic control. The shake-up brings the company closer to the central government and has many wondering whether links to the senior leader are still a valuable asset given his declining health.

"Shougang's patronage came from the first family, and not everyone in China was happy about that," said Steve MacNamee of Martin Partners. "Some people thought they were excessively favored, so this might be a changing of the guard."

Mr. Zhou started working at Shougang in 1950 and took the company's helm in 1982, three years after Mr. Deng launched changes in China that cast aside the planned economy in favor of market-oriented policies. Mr. Zhou is 77.

Mr. Zhou has been replaced by Bi Qun, a vice minister at the Metallurgical Ministry, said Liu Wei, division chief at Shougang's foreign affairs department. The Metallurgical Ministry controls all China's major steel plants except Shougang, which comes directly under the State Council.

Mr. Liu said Mr. Zhou had been replaced because of his age. "It was a smooth transfer of power," he said.

In China, U.S. Brand Names Face a Battle for Recognition

By Laurence Zuckerman
New York Times Service
 American companies eager to win the business of China's 1.2 billion people are fighting an uphill battle, according to a comprehensive poll of consumer attitudes on the Chinese mainland.

Six of the top 10 foreign brands identified by the survey's respondents were Japanese, even though those surveyed were asked to pick from a list containing twice as many American as Japanese names.

Four of the Japanese brands — Panasonic, Hitachi, Toshiba and Toyota — were also the ones respondents said they held in highest regard. Coca-Cola was the most widely known American brand, finishing second with 62 percent recognition.

Just behind Hitachi's 65 percent, the next closest American finishers were Mickey Mouse — which is a distinct brand in China and was the seventh most recognized name, with 54 percent — and Marlboro, which was eighth, with 51 percent.

"U.S. multinationals have their work cut out for them," said Richard W. Burkholder Jr., director of worldwide operations for the Gallup Organization, which conducted the poll. The survey also showed that brand loyalty was still weak in China, where consumers are chiefly concerned with the price and quality of the goods they buy and still favor Chinese manufacturers in the countryside.

The poll was conducted to promote Gallup's entry into China and was partly financed by the Japan Management Association. Gallup representatives fanned out across China between May 2 and Sept. 15 to ask more than 400 questions of a single individual in each of 3,400 households in the sampling.

Especially remote areas, like the Gobi Desert in Inner Mongolia, Mr. Burkholder said, Gallup interviewers traveled on horseback or by camel. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.8 percent, he added.

"We're comfortable that these results project what all people in China would have answered if we could have asked each one of them," Mr. Burkholder said.

In a country that has been buffeted by fierce political winds over the last 40 years, the survey revealed how deeply the free-market policies introduced in the late 1970s by Deng Xiaoping, China's ailing 91-year-old leader, have permeated the national psyche.

Asked their personal philosophy, 68 percent of those polled said it could be summed up by the phrase "work hard and get rich." Only 4 percent summarized their personal belief as the Maoist credo: "Never think of yourself. Give everything in service to society."

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

YOUR CONTACT
 In Providence
 Bernard Bess & Michel Fenech
 are offering you a selected range of real estate services in the heart of the Vendée region (France).
 Tel: (33) 91 30 34 35

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CARIBBEAN
 DUTCH ST MARTIN 3 building plots, 14+ acre each. Spectacular setting overlooking the sea. One building plot for sale. Tel: 516-795-3333. Fax: 516-795-3333. US\$1,500,000

FRENCH PROVINCES
 PROVENCE - VAUCLUSE AREA. GORGES - LES MOULINS 1995. Two 14th century chateaux. One for sale. Tel: 516-795-3333. Fax: 516-795-3333. US\$1,500,000

ITALY

COMPRENSO WITH TUSCANY
 In the heart of the Tuscan region, 140 km. from Florence, 100 km. from Rome. 1000 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CUDINOT
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CHAMP DE MARS
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

NEW ZEALAND

LAKESIDE IN NEW ZEALAND
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CUDINOT
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

HOLLAND

BENTHOUSE INTERNATIONAL
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CUDINOT
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

PARIS

74 CHATEAUX IN PARIS
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CUDINOT
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

INDONESIA

BALI COMPLEX - EXCLUSIVE
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CUDINOT
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

FRANCE

17th, BATIGNOLLES
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

7th, CUDINOT
 1400 sq. m. plot, 1000 sq. m. house, 1000 sq. m. garden. Tel: (39) 55 33 33 33

هكذا من الاصل

Feb. 16, 1995

• weather (m) - more

(Lux) — ECU
 (Lux) — ECU

CHI SF 42
MAJ S 43
MENT HINDS LTD

TO OUR
READERS
IN
GREECE

It's never
been easier
to subscribe
and save.
Just call
today:
(1) 99-19-328
in Athens.

For information on how to list your fund, fax Catherine de VIENNE at (33-1) 46 37 21 30

SPORTS

Cipollini and Bugno Taste Spring on Back Roads of Provence

By Samuel Abt
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — For months, one gray day has trudged bleakly after another. No sun, no sign of spring. Winter, still winter outside the window and inside the heart.

But not all hearts. Mario Cipollini and Gianni Bugno have tasted spring. In the south of France, as television proved last weekend, the bicycle racing season has begun. There was the pack, gliding along the back roads of Provence, past hills that had to be dotted with early lavender and shiny with the new leaves of olive trees. There was the sun and, when it baked the hills, there would be the scent of thyme.

The riders wore shorts and short-sleeved jerseys, the uniform of spring. Spring — Cipollini, Il Magnifico, has been waiting nearly a year for spring.

Late last April, in a sprint finish in the first stage of the Vuelta a Espana,

he was shouldered into a crowd barrier and crashed heavily at high speed. Because the Italian was not wearing a helmet, he suffered a severe concussion. Cipollini is fearless, just ask him. Was fearless.

After the crash he suffered from fierce headaches and found he had lost his zest for the sprint. If he retained his speed over the final 200 meters, he no longer felt able to abandon himself to the fury of that charge. He did not get back on his bicycle until September.

The Tour of the Mediterranean last week was his first competitive race since the Vuelta. On the third stage, from Mauguio to Berre among the green hills outside Marseille, Cipollini let it out, attacking with half a kilometer left.

He coasted over the line, sitting up while the other sprinters were still pumping. Cipollini's long hair was blowing behind him from under his helmet, and his arms were out-

stretched, palms down, in his familiar gesture of victory, like a holy man blessing his flock. "Thank you, boys," he told his *Mercatone Uno* teammates. Before the race finished Sunday he recorded two more sprint victories, but the first was the best. "It was as good as winning the world championship," he said.

Bugno returned from another sort of disaster. Last August, during the world championships in Sicily, the rumor went out that he had failed a drug test. Not drugs exactly but caffeine, which is prohibited in extraordinary amounts as a stimulant.

Found guilty, Bugno was banned from the sport for two years under rules of the Italian Cycling Federation. On his appeal that the international laws of racing took precedence over national laws, the sentence was reduced to the standard three months.

That was not a whitewash for the Bugno, who has long been a man of fragile morale and complex problems. Six years ago, when he was still

a minor rider, he began seeing a psychologist to help resolve his timidity. He also had to overcome severe vertigo, or dizziness and fear of falling when he descended a mountain at high speed. The trouble was laid to a bad crash in the 1988 Giro d'Italia and to a congenital obstruction in the canals of his inner ear.

As a cure, Bugno underwent ultrasound treatments laced with music, mainly Mozart. "I listened to Mozart at different speeds and degrees of loudness for a month," he reported. "After that, the vertigo was gone."

Soon an allergist found that Bugno could not tolerate wheat, milk and milk products, and changed his diet. Retooled, Bugno became a champion, rising to the top of the professionalists' computerized rankings.

In the 1990 Giro, he won the prologue and kept the leader's pink jersey for the rest of the race. In the Tour de France that year, he won both the climbers' big stage at Alpe d'Huez and the sprinters' at Bor-

deaux. In 1991 and '92 he won the professional road race championship.

The last two years have been lean, however, with only an unexpected victory in the 1994 Tour of Flanders to slow his decline. Everything soured: He lost confidence in his director *Sportif* with the Polti team, he was divorced, he moved from Italy to Monaco. The positive drug finding and the two-year ban confronted Bugno, at age 31, with the probability that his career was through.

Like Cipollini, the Tour of the Mediterranean was the first race of the season for Bugno. On Saturday, he worked hard to spring a young MG teammate, Davide Rebellin, off and away on the 9-kilometer (5.5-mile) Mont Faron climb near Toulon. When Rebellin could not shake a rival, Bugno overtook them both and swept to victory himself. Wiping the sweat from his face, he stood in the sun and said he hoped this victory would simply be the first.

On Sunday, the sun moved from Provence to Paris and the street market was suddenly full of flowers: crocus, pygmy iris, narcissus, primula in all the colors of the rainbow jersey. Down south it was dark and overcast.

The Tour of the Mediterranean ended in the streets of Marseille with a climb up the Notre Dame de la Garde hill, 550 meters long and a grade of 20 percent. Like the Mont Faron ascent, this was asking a lot of the riders early in the season and few were up to it. Bugno zipped to another easy victory, both the stage and the overall.

Because he wore only the slightest smile, he might have seemed remote, even indifferent, when the television cameras moved in afterward and the questions began. His answers were banal.

As Bugno knows, for weeks to come, a bright sun will be exceptional. Prudence and caution are called for. Down in Provence it felt like spring, but was still winter.

In NFL Draft, 2 New Teams Take 2 Tacks

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The Jacksonville Jaguars began the National Football League's expansion draft with a flourish, selecting the veteran quarterback Steve Buehler with the first pick. The Jaguars then traded the draft with a bang by selecting five consecutive players who will earn \$1 million or more in 1995.

That group includes a three-some of disappointing first-round draft picks: Washington receiver Desmond Howard, the New York Giants' tight end Derek Brown and New England guard Eugene Chung.

In between, Jacksonville and the Carolina Panthers, the other expansion team, selected players who came cheap during the NFL's first expansion draft in 19 years.

The big names on the list for the Panthers were Pittsburgh cornerback Tim McKeever, Cleveland receiver Mark Carrier and the New York Jets' backup quarterback Jack Trudeau. Jacksonville and Carolina took different tacks.

The Panthers, who took 35 players, will pay more than \$9 million on their salaries but, picked mainly younger players and left themselves more money to work with during the free agency period, which begins Friday.

Carrier was the only player they selected who will make \$1 million next season.

The Jaguars, by contrast, took 31 players and spent a bit more than \$15 million in selecting Buehler, who will earn \$2 million in 1995; Brown; Howard; Chung; New Orleans linebacker James Williams, and Green Bay running back Reggie Cobb, who will make about \$1 million each next season. Those six players will account for nearly half of the \$15 million.

Baseball Spring Training Opens With a Chill Factor

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida — Major league baseball began its annual rites of spring Thursday without big league stars, and only a handful of fans showed up to watch minor leaguers and replacement players work out.

The Yankees were the only team to hold an official workout on the first day, and fewer than 70 spectators showed for the start of the workouts at traditionally bustling Fort Lauderdale Stadium to watch pitchers and catchers put through their paces. Admission was free.

"It's kind of like Christmas without the Christmas presents," said a minor league pitcher, Mike DeJean.

In Washington, the owners and players put in another full day Wednesday as a Senate subcommittee heard renewed arguments as to whether baseball should retain its antitrust exemption. But even as the four-hour hearing unfolded, two things seemed evident.

First, the subcommittee on antitrust, monopolies and business seemed not at all close to sending to the full Senate two bills designed to partly roll back the 73-year-old exemption so coveted by club owners and so vilified by striking players.

The second theme — and one offered with much more enthusiasm by senator after senator — was a groundswell of bipartisan anger toward both sides in the strike. (AP, NYT)



Yankee replacement pitchers Rich Polak (left) and Keith Seilor, getting sort of acquainted.

SIDELINES

Westner's 62 Leads Els by 3 Shots

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — Wayne Westner, playing his home course, shot a "lucky" 8-under-par 62 Thursday that was a shot off the record for The Wanderers layout and gave him a three-stroke lead after one round of the South African PGA.

In second place in the European Tour event was the U.S. Open champion Ernie Els.

Westner got six birdies, plus an eagle 3 at the 13th, to fall one stroke short of the course record set by Fulton Allem of South Africa in 1990. Westner said that "it hit one or two good shots but it wasn't spectacular."

For the Record

The French government said it will recruit jobless people to help local teams reach out to low-income youths in a bid to curb soccer-related violence such as the recent shooting death of a fan. (AP)

The Genoa-AC Milan replay of the soccer match ended when an Italian fan was killed without incident, with about 500 police deployed at Genoa's stadium for a small crowd of 22,000. (Reuters)

Lang Ping, who led China's women's volleyball team to a gold medal in the 1984 Olympics, has quit as the assistant women's coach at the University of New Mexico to coach the Chinese squad for the 1996 Summer Games. (AP)

Organizers of Salt Lake City's bid to play host to the 2002 Winter Games said they must raise an additional \$223,000, with most of the money needed to help cover the costs of visits by members of the IOC. (AP)

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	31	18	.633	—
New York	30	19	.611	1 1/2
Boston	29	20	.592	2 1/2
New Jersey	28	21	.571	3 1/2
Atlanta	19	30	.380	14 1/2
Philadelphia	14	35	.286	19 1/2
Washington	12	37	.245	21 1/2

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	31	18	.633	—
Cleveland	29	19	.604	1 1/2
Indiana	28	20	.583	2 1/2
Chicago	26	22	.542	4 1/2
Atlanta	25	23	.521	5 1/2
Milwaukee	19	30	.380	12 1/2
Detroit	18	31	.353	13 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	31	18	.633	—
San Antonio	30	19	.611	1 1/2
Houston	30	19	.611	1 1/2
Denver	29	20	.592	2 1/2
Dallas	28	21	.571	3 1/2
Minnesota	12	37	.245	18 1/2

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	31	18	.633	—
Seattle	30	19	.611	1 1/2
L.A. Lakers	29	20	.592	2 1/2
Sacramento	28	21	.571	3 1/2
Portland	27	22	.542	4 1/2
Golden State	14	35	.286	19 1/2
L.A. Clippers	8	41	.163	25 1/2

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	34	22	.607	—
Philadelphia	31	19	.617	3 1/2

Top 25 College Results

New the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll forced Wednesday.

7, Maryland (19-9, 9-3) lost to No. 14 Wake Forest (16-5, 7-4) 63-54. Next: vs. Cincinnati at San Antonio, Sunday; at Michigan State (16-5, 10-2) beat Illinois (13-4, 7-5) 68-58. Next: at No. 24 Minnesota, Saturday; at Arizona (28-5, 8-4) beat No. 18 Alabama (17-4, 7-4) 85-80. Next: vs. Mississippi State, Saturday; at Virginia (17-4, 9-2) beat Duke (11-13, 1-11) 64-58. Next: vs. No. 21 North Carolina, Sunday; at Stanford (16-5, 7-3) beat California (12-9, 4-8) 82-76. Next: vs. No. 6 UCLA, Tuesday.

26, Georgia Tech (16-8) beat North Carolina A&T (10-12) 85-81. Next: vs. No. 14 Wake Forest, Saturday; at Iowa State (13-7, 4-4) lost to No. 22 Oklahoma State (17-7, 7-2) 71-69. Next: vs. Colorado, Saturday; at Minnesota (16-7, 7-4) lost to Iowa (15-9, 5-7) 74-68. Next: vs. No. 8 Michigan State, Saturday; at Purdue (17-4, 8-3) beat Penn State (13-8, 5-7) 71-51. Next: vs. Northwestern, Saturday.

Other Major College Scores

Boston U. 63, Hofstra 57; Colgate 76, Bucknell 57; Holy Cross 72, Fordham 57; LaSalle 72, Lafayette 73; Navy 73, Army 69; Pittsburgh 64, Boston College 75; Rhode Island 57, Virginia 73; Arkansas 86, Alabama 80.

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GB
N.Y. Rangers	4	6	1	9	—
Florida	6	7	1	13	3
Philadelphia	6	7	1	13	3
New Jersey	5	5	2	12	3
N.Y. Islanders	5	6	1	11	3
Washington	2	8	2	6	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GB
Pittsburgh	11	1	2	24	—
Quebec	11	1	2	24	—

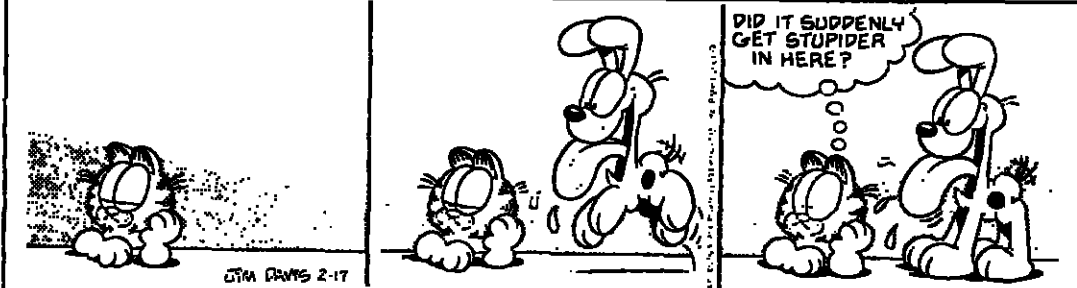
DENNIS THE MENACE



PEANUTS



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



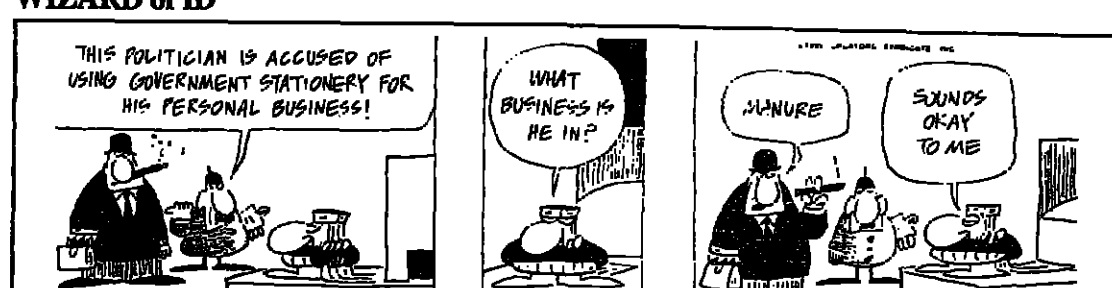
DOONESBURY



CALVIN AND HOBBS



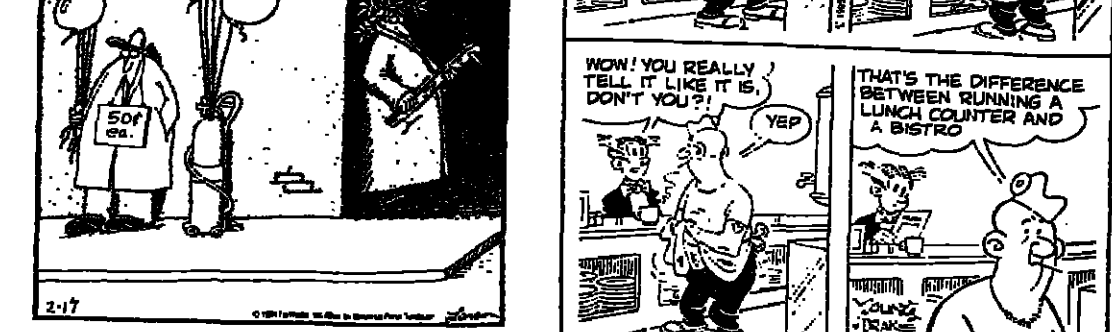
WIZARD OF ID



THE FAR SIDE



BLONDIE



JUMBLE
Unscramble these words to win a prize. You have 10 minutes to solve them. Your prize is yours to keep.

NAHEN
ZAGUE
DEPENX
TRYSOE

How do you feel about the word game? Write your answer on the lines below.

Post answer here: 44

Prize is yours to keep.

Winner's name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Prize is yours to keep.

Education Directory
Every Tuesday
Contact Kimberly Guernard-Belancourt
Tel: (33 1) 46 37 94 76
Fax: (33 1) 46 37 93 70
or your nearest IHT office
or representative

مركز الامم المتحدة

England's Likely to Keep Championships, but Soccer's Losing a War

LONDON — England apparently will be allowed to keep the European Championships in 1996, which implies the escalation of a certain kind of war. It was declared by the English hooligans who injured more than 50 people Wednesday night in Dublin, who ripped benches out of the stands and rained them onto those sitting below to ruin the England-Ireland friendly after 27 minutes.

Their declaration is an end to itself. Their actions don't bear logic; so, as satisfying as it feels to call them "idiots" and "morons," that kind of response is probably even more satisfying to them. It's all about provoking a response. They love a fight more than anything, and names will never hurt them.

The disaster arose from the visitors' upper tier of the West Stand at Lansdowne Road minutes after Ireland had struck a 1-0 lead, and the first reaction was to retreat. The Dutch referee, Denis Jol, called off the match, while horrified commentators quickly considered whether England was deserving or capable of hosting the European Championships next year. The referee's decision shouldn't be debated: One more innocent person should not have been hurt for

the sake of putting a brave face on a sport whose own apparent breakdowns in organization helped to foster the worst behavior in the worst people.

The valid question of England's ability to host the world's second-biggest soccer tournament was quashed, typically, by Joël Havelange, president of FIFA, the international soccer federation. The decision actually belongs to UEFA, the European federation, which is awaiting reports from the English and Irish football associations.

"England does not deserve, because of a localized problem, to have a sporting right withdrawn," Havelange said Thursday from Zurich. He appeared almost angry that he had to deal with such questions. "FIFA only deals with the field," he said. "I don't have the wherewithal to go down to the stadium and check all these people. If it happens on the pitch then it's football's problem."

So doubts haven't been resurrected that England can provide safe haven for the game and all of its supporters?

"On the U.K. front, the answer is negative," Havelange said. "Everything can be handled." Just like that.

The Irish sports minister, Bernard Allen, won't be appeased so easily. He asked, "How can people from Ireland and from other countries go to England and

expect to be safe watching matches in the presence of people like those who were here tonight?"

There's often no reasoning with people in power. Their sensibilities tend to be self-serving. Of course it's true that those who celebrated the stoppage of an England match for the first time — another sad milestone — cannot really be fans of the game. It's just as true that they attend matches because of all the popularity from which the game profits: for the large and emotional crowds, easily swayed; for the confrontation with the foreign cultures they regard as enemy; for the stage they can occasionally steal from the world's athletic celebrities; for the instantaneous media exposure. All of this allows a few hundred yobs to blemish the face of a nation.

(Just as true, they represent a mood within their nation.)

If there were any other stage better suited to their cries, they would ditch soccer in a moment. They were at Lansdowne Road just as surely as Havelange sees himself as some sort of global emperor.

There would be more reason to believe in the game's best traits if its leader said he was going to do everything he could to set a good example. Obviously, setting a good example is the game's only resort beyond the last-ditch measures of security in the stadiums.

Everyone worries about the innocent victims, in-

jured for supporting the game that profits from them. But it is hard to feel sympathy for the institution of English soccer in these days when its own player — probably its best player — attacks and attempts to injure the very people who reward his ability. The men who run the game value Eric Cantona's talent above all else. By insinuation they question the motives of the supporter and, more openly, the TV reporter who "provoked" him. They sympathize with Cantona and support him through this difficult time, and in so doing they loosen the standards for what should be acceptable behavior.

CANTONA's recent outbursts did not create the environment of Wednesday night. Rather, his violent actions were borne from that environment. Last week, 11 police officers were injured in the club riot at the Chelsea ground in London. Cantona did not cause these problems. The problem is the frazzled message sent by soccer's understanding and support for someone like him.

The captain of England's national team, David Platt, tried to reason with his supporters in Dublin, but they responded by throwing a bench at him. "Just two weeks ago English football was being held up as an example to the Italians on how to curb violence," said Platt, who plays for Sampdoria. "I now have to go back to Italy and face the same journalists who wrote that."

So long as the English are going to be competing in Euro '96, the best option is probably that they play in England, where police have been educated and stadiums have been renovated in response to the tragedies of the 1980s.

Warnings of English violence were met by a huge show of security in Dublin, in light of the British-Irish negotiations over Northern Ireland; but it seems now that ancient Lansdowne Road was suited for the riot, with its narrow aisles preventing the police from overwhelming the English supporters. The English are not required to show their passports when entering Ireland, but officials on both sides are asking how 4,000 English were in the stadium when only 2,000 tickets had reportedly been made available to them. There was reportedly little separation between the host and visiting supporters.

"No surrender to the IRA," the English were chanting. Some were said to be members of the extremist National Front; some were giving Nazi salutes. It is said that the most effective English hooligans are now approaching middle age, which means they know all the tricks.

They have put the pressure on England to police itself against itself once more. If real fans were wondering which team will win the 1996 championship, they will now be worrying more about their own safety. But that's not Joël Havelange's problem.

FA Asks Fans To Turn In The 'Thugs'

LONDON — "True fans" were urged Thursday by England's Football Association to help identify those responsible for Wednesday night's trouble.

"We are making a major effort to identify those at the heart of the trouble," said David Davies, the FA's director of public affairs. "Many of them were recognizable from newspaper photographs or television stills."

The FA has set up a special free phone line, Davies said, and added: "We urge true football supporters to ring if they can help."

"We will be asking every club involved in matches this weekend to repeat this appeal and we trust the Irish law will be used to its limits to punish those involved last night."

"We will do everything in our powers to banish those who disgraced themselves and the nation they purport to represent."

Prime Minister John Major, in a letter to Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland, apologized for the "inexcusable and thuggish" behavior by the English at the match.

"They were a disgrace and an embarrassment," wrote Major, himself a keen soccer fan.



The pain, the rage: An injured spectator (left) at the match in Dublin was treated on the field as, in the stands, police wrestled with a member of the English contingent. Police said they had arrested about 40 people from England and three from Ireland, and 40 people had been treated at a hospital for injuries, one a fractured skull. An Irish man in his 60s died of a heart attack while leaving the stadium, although this was not thought to be related to the violence, police said.

Sydney 95 Deals Blow to French Hopes

Agence France-Press
SAN DIEGO — Sydney 95, with a new headsail, a modified keel and its third helmsman in as many rounds, opened the third round-robin of the America's Cup challenger trials with a 38-second victory that considerably boosted its prospects but sent France 3 staggering into next-to-last place.

In another upset, America3, with its all-women crew still sailing Bill Koch's 1992 Cup-defending boat, outsailed Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes by 1 minute, 26 seconds Wednesday. All three of the women's victories have come in the first race of a defense round.

With ideal winds of 8 to 12 knots, Team New Zealand sailed its Black Magic — unbeaten in 13 races except by a protest — to a steady, 1:16 triumph over Nippon while NZL 39 had no trouble disposing of winless Rioja de Espana by 2:30.

Law, Coxon drove the boat in the second round.

It was only Sydney 95's fourth victory in 13 races, but with points escalating to four per victory in the third round, the boat is in fifth place, only two points out of the critical fourth berth in the semifinals starting March 18. The two New Zealand entries are first and second, followed by one Australia and Nippon.

"In breeze like today's, this boat comes alive," Beashel said.

Fischer contacted Beashel on his recent trip home to Sydney and persuaded him to join the team. Beashel had sailed on an International America's Cup Class boat only once before, in practice earlier this week. His last America's Cup action was in 1986-87 off Fremantle, Western Australia, when he was the skipper for Alan Bond's Australia IV. It lost in the defender final to Iain Murray's Kookaburra III.

"These are a lot more maneuverable than 12-meters, with a lot more horsepower," Beashel said.

French prospects appeared bleak. Their cause had been advanced little with the introduction of France 3, their second new boat, in the previous round, and its skipper, Marc Pajot, said, "It's a race we couldn't afford to lose."

His next three are against Team New Zealand, one Australia and Chris Dickson's NZL 39.

The Sydney 95-France 3 match was the closest of the day.

Beashel took over the wheel from Wittey after the boats split at the start. France enjoyed a small early advantage, which it squandered by oversteering the port layline to the first mark. When the wind shifted slightly left, Beashel was lifted around the mark, side-by-side with France 3 but in the inside position.

"We misjudged our approach," Pajot said.

When France 3's spinnaker tore a few minutes later, the Australians moved ahead to lead by 15 seconds at the second mark and stretched that to 54 seconds with a strong upwind leg to gain control of the race.

Like Sydney 95, America3 performs better in a breeze. But Stars & Stripes, with Paul Cayard steering the start and first leg, got off the line eight seconds behind in what Cayard called his "bonehead start" and never caught up.

He put the women to the test by forcing 41 tacks on the first beat, hoping to grind them down. It didn't work, partly because of a temporary winch problem on Stars & Stripes and partly because of the women's improving performance.

"The question of whether women are strong enough is no longer an issue," said Stephanie Pierson, the mainsail grinder.

Graf Given a Fight, but Defeats Young Hingis

The Associated Press
PARIS — Steffi Graf, in the second match of her comeback from injuries, defeated 14-year-old prodigy Martina Hingis in a quarterfinal Thursday at the Paris Open.

Although Graf won, 6-2, 6-3, and in 61 minutes, the young Czech player, who lives in Switzerland, was tougher than the score indicated in her first match against the German star.

Graf controlled the pace, hitting forehand winners at key points. However, Hingis was able to stay in the match by taking advantage of Graf's weaker back-

hand and occasionally hitting winners of her own.

Graf took the first set, which she opened with an ace, in 26 minutes. The only time she was in trouble was in the first game, when two double faults gave Hingis a break point. But two forehand winners and an ace erased that and gave Graf the game.

Hingis stiffened her defense and even broke serve to go ahead, 1-0, in the second set with the help of two consecutive backhand errors by Graf. But Graf broke right back to even it at 1-1.

Still, each game was a struggle. There were several more service breaks, includ-

ing one by Graf to go ahead by 5-3. Serving for the match, she took the final two points with her eighth ace and a service winner.

Hingis beat last year's finalist, Julie Halard of France, in the second round.

Graf, because of recurring back and calf injuries, has played just four matches since losing to Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the U.S. Open in September — two in the year-ending Virginia Slims tournament in November and two in this tournament.

She has lost her No. 1 ranking to Sanchez Vicario but could gain it back with a victory in this tournament.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Finance
4 Tore
10 Trick
14 "There!"

15 Drench, with "down"
16 Patron saint of Norway
17 Mississippi quartet

18 Plenty
19 — Bay, Hawaii
20 Like Chablis
21 Butcher?
24 Neil portrayer in a 1984 movie
25 With 46-Across, a successor to Buster Crabbe
27 Life
28 Schoenberg's works
29 Anomalous
30 Daily role
34 Recalled
35 Time-worn
37 Civic organization
38 Manilow's "It Be Magic"
39 Group of turtles
40 Receive
41 Cook squash, perhaps
42 Early tennis star — Bill Jacobs
43 Nerve impulse point
44 Aristocracy
45 See 26-Across
47 Afflict suddenly
48 Catterman?
49 Magic org.
50 Traces
51 Superior
52 Tribal leader
53 Quechua
54 French chef's dish
55 Tuscan city
56 Marquess or viscount
58 Life — of bricks
59 Dangerously seductive

DOWN

1 Eventful times
2 Ship's prow
3 Crinopodites?
4 Violinist Bull

5 Tolsome part of the week
6 Ignominy
7 Kind of shirt
8 Workers' purchase arrangement, for short
9 Disillusioned
10 Herr Goethe
11 Got down
12 — Alto
13 — excellence
14 Trouble
15 Artery
16 A good deal of binary code
17 Tourist city near Nimes
18 Lies
19 "On the Beach" author
20 Roofing item
21 Guidance counselor?
22 "Oklahoma!"
23 Hunt
24 Bygone coins
25 Gainsay
26 Largest living rodent
27 Auto pioneer
28 Polo pioneer
29 Dora Duke, e.g.
30 Sweet drink
31 Plow horse command
32 Flock of wild fowl
33 Send
34 Prong
35 If ever
36 Radix, botanically
37 Rip about
38 Nota
39 Flaherty's "Man of the Sea"
40 Weeks per annum

Solution to Puzzle of Feb. 16

ARGALL COWARD
CUBALLS OPERA
INTAGLIO MADAMA
DAW EMPYOR PAM
STEAM PHI THERIA
ALLO IND ASKS
BUTTHESPIRIT
HECTARE
ANYTHINGGOES
PIVA SOC EARTH
INAPT EAT LERAR
POT HOSTEL APE
PIETAS EXAMINES
IGUANA STOODOUT
PORTER SCALPS

Old Track Record Falls, Belatedly

The Associated Press
ERFURT, Germany — Lyubov Kremlova of Russia has broken one of the oldest indoor world records by clocking 2 minutes, 34.18 seconds over 1,000 meters.

Kremlova set the record at a meet here in eastern Germany on Wednesday night, but the organizers were not aware until Thursday that she had broken the mark of 2:34.8 that was set by Brigitte Kraus of Germany in 1978.

At the same meet in Erfurt, Sun Caiyun of China set her fifth indoor pole vault record in less than three weeks by clearing 4.15 meters (13 feet, 7 1/4 inches).

He put the women to the test by forcing 41 tacks on the first beat, hoping to grind them down. It didn't work, partly because of a temporary winch problem on Stars & Stripes and partly because of the women's improving performance.

"The question of whether women are strong enough is no longer an issue," said Stephanie Pierson, the mainsail grinder.

ESORTS & GUIDES

BELGRAVIA ORCHIDS

LONDON PARIS GENEVA ZURICH
Escort Agency Credit Cards Welcome
UK 071 589 5237

ELITE Escort Service

NEW YORK CITY
1-800-464-6667

INTERNATIONAL ESCORTS

Service - Worldwide
Tel: 212-245-7210 New York, NY, USA
Major Credit Cards Accepted

MARIELLA LONDON

London Escort Service
UK 071 591 0458

LONDON'S NO. 1 ESCORT

3 St. James's Place London W1
AGENCY 071 258 0090

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

(Continued From Page 4)

CHICAGO & NEW YORK
Escort agency - 022/246 10 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 123/231 1170
New York Tel: 212/732 3739
ZURICH / BERLIN / BASEL
Tel: 077/88 05 00, 077/88 06 70
PARIS & LONDON
"ELEGANCE"
Escort Service London 071 394 5145

GENEVA & BASEL
Escort agency - 022/246 10 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 123/231 1170
New York Tel: 212/732 3739
ZURICH / BERLIN / BASEL
Tel: 077/88 05 00, 077/88 06 70
PARIS & LONDON
"ELEGANCE"
Escort Service London 071 394 5145

VIENNA "PRAGUE" ZURICH
Escort agency - 022/246 10 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 123/231 1170
New York Tel: 212/732 3739
ZURICH / BERLIN / BASEL
Tel: 077/88 05 00, 077/88 06 70
PARIS & LONDON
"ELEGANCE"
Escort Service London 071 394 5145

AMSTERDAM "DREAMS" ESCORT
Dinner dates & personal guide service
Tel: +31 (0)20 624 02 11 / 64 07 666
LONDON ESCORT SERVICE
Tel: 071 722 5000 Credit Cards
0224-201513

VIENNA "PRAGUE" ZURICH
Escort agency - 022/246 10 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 123/231 1170
New York Tel: 212/732 3739
ZURICH / BERLIN / BASEL
Tel: 077/88 05 00, 077/88 06 70
PARIS & LONDON
"ELEGANCE"
Escort Service London 071 394 5145

KENNINGTON ESCORT AGENCY
10 Kennington Church St, London W8
Tel: 071 927 0330/9135 credit cards
LONDON MAYFAIR
High Society Escort & Travel Service
Tel: 071 497 0975

ZURICH - GENEVA - CANNES
Escort agency - 022/246 10 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 123/231 1170
New York Tel: 212/732 3739
ZURICH / BERLIN / BASEL
Tel: 077/88 05 00, 077/88 06 70
PARIS & LONDON
"ELEGANCE"
Escort Service London 071 394 5145

MADE - ASTOR AND FRIENDS
Tel: 022/78 48 05
MADE - ASTOR AND FRIENDS
Tel: 022/78 48 05

MADRID EXCLUSIVE
Tel: 022/78 48 05

FRANKFURT & AMSTERDAM
Tel: 022/78 48 05

MADRID HARMONY
Escort & Guide Service, English, French, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Dutch, German, Tel: 022/78 48 05

PARIS VIENNA "PRAGUE" ZURICH
Escort & Guide Service, English, French, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Dutch, German, Tel: 022/78 48 05

MUNICH "WELCOME"
Escort & Guide Agency, Tel: 022/78 48 05

POSTCARD

Ghosts in Gloucester

By Ralph Blumenthal
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Now you see them, now you don't. Anyway you look at it, there are two extra sailboats and some flying sea gulls in a Winslow Homer watercolor that weren't there when the American master painted it in 1880.

The ghostly additions materialized sometime after the painting, "Off Gloucester Harbor," was stolen in 1969 and before it reappeared in 1992. Thereby hangs a bittersweet tale, one that ended with the return of the defaced painting to its owner more than a quarter-century after its theft but with a central mystery still unsolved.

"They're not dead sure it can ever be restored," said Sophia L. Truett, the lawyer for the owner, Ellen Jennings of Ipswich, Massachusetts. Insurance companies, she said, won't touch the painting. "It's not a Homer," she said. "It's a Homer and Joe Blow."

As told in federal court papers and interviews with Robert Van Etten, the U.S. Customs Service agent in charge in New York, the work, which had been valued at about \$125,000, was one of four Homer works — two watercolors and two drawings — that were stolen from the home of Jennings and her late husband on Jan. 16, 1969.

The painting is of two boys in a rowboat on calm water looking at a schooner passing in the distance to the right.

In March 1992, court records say, Peter Juvelis, an art broker from Mexico and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, consigned for sale by Christie's in New York a Homer watercolor for a client, Georgina Maldonado.

When Christie's asked about the history of the picture's ownership, Juvelis "stated he had

no bill of sale because his client received the watercolor as a gift from a Mexican official," a customs agent, Bonnie Goldblatt, said in sworn statements.

When Christie's sought authentication from a Homer expert, whom the authorities sought to keep anonymous, she identified it as the long-missing Gloucester Harbor scene.

She also noticed the addition of two smaller sailboats on the left and sea gulls in the sky, apparently to disguise the work as a painting other than the one that had been stolen.

The expert then recalled, Goldblatt's affidavits said, that two years earlier she had authenticated a Homer drawing consigned by the same Juvelis.

This drawing — "Boy Sitting on a Stump," from 1879 — was also one of the Homers stolen from the Jennings home, but by oversight it had not been registered as missing. In that case, the court papers said, the sale went through unnoticed, at a price of \$54,000.

When Customs Service agents interviewed Juvelis about the drawing in 1992, he again named the owner as Maldonado, who, he said, had received it from friends 20 years before, the affidavits stated.

Further investigation showed that Juvelis was married to Maldonado, Goldblatt said.

Furthermore, the agent testified, when the Customs Service asked for the commercial form documenting the importation of the Homer painting from Mexico, as required for sale transactions, Juvelis said there was none because a friend had carried it in for him.

Michael I. Rose, a lawyer for Juvelis, said his client had been "duped" into buying the stolen works from an art dealer in Ipswich who died years ago.

Russell Baker is on vacation.

William Christie's Magic Resurrection Act

By David Stevens
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Once again, the hottest ticket in town is for a musical-theatrical entertainment first performed more than three centuries ago and since then mostly left for dead.

The phenomenon is similar to the astonishingly successful resurrection eight years ago of an opera, "Atys," from the supposedly moribund repertory of the founder of French opera, Jean-Baptiste Lully. William Christie, the conductor and prime mover of that revival, is back at work, this time in behalf of Britain's great Baroque composer Henry Purcell.

"King Arthur," or "The British Worthy," identified as "a dramatic opera," is a collaboration by Purcell and John Dryden. Dryden, defrocked as poet laureate because, as a Roman Catholic, he did not fit in with the Protestant regime of William and Mary, nonetheless reigned the text and political agenda of a play he had written in allegorical homage to Charles II. Purcell contributed the music, and "King Arthur" was a popular success in 1691 in London's Dorset Garden.

The return of theater under the Restoration did not include English acquiescence to fully sung opera, and "King Arthur" is a "semi-opera," a kind of 17th-century musical in which the main plot is moved along by Dryden's rich and vigorous language, while music is called on to generate the fantastic elements.

Christie successfully revived another of Purcell's semi-operas, "The Fairy Queen," at the festival in Aix-en-Provence, and "King Arthur" seemed like a good bet for the 300th anniversary of Purcell's too-early death at age 36.

"This is a response to some very smug comments by British and American scholars that the form is dead and unfit for revival," Christie said cheerfully during a break in rehearsals.

"Why can't words and music cohabit?" he asked. "They do — in American musical comedy and in the movie musicals of the '40s and '50s."

In the case of "King Arthur," the division of speech, music and dance



Christie has made a specialty of a long-vanished repertory.

requires the services of actors, singers and dancers, with only two roles — an Air Spirit and an Earth Spirit — calling for both singing and speaking.

The story tells of the political-military confrontation of Arthur, Christian king of the Britons, and Oswald, the pagan and Saxon king of Kent, and of their amorous competition for Emmeline. Each king has his own magic. Merlin, who restores the sight of the blind Emmeline and overcomes

the evil spells of the lascivious Osmond, and there are myriad other spirits and mythical figures.

On the stage of the Théâtre du Châtelet, Graham Vick and his mostly British team have staged a marvelous imaginative show. Paul Brown's sets and costumes are as richly colored as a child's picture book, modern in means but with a Baroque sense of spectacle. Dryden's rich verse is handsomely spoken by a cast of British

actors, and the stylized acting and extravagant costumes give the impression Kabuki was an English invention.

The Baroque theater of machines is cleverly evoked. The opposing kings slide on and off from the wings astride their horses. Various spirits descend from the flies or disappear through traps. Trees and flowers pop up from the floor and a field of ice is transmogrified into a field of sunflowers. Singers and dancers are subtly blended, in Ron Howell's choreography, so that they seem to be a chorus of singing dancers, or dancing singers.

The final act is a grand apotheosis to the future greatness of Britain. The isles rise out of the sea, complete with white cliffs and grassy meadows, shepherds and farmers. Venus arrives to sing praise of the "Fairest Isle," and there is a parade of British icons — a London bobby, a coal miner, a guardsman, an RAF pilot. After all this, who needs European Union?

The music of "King Arthur" has lived on mainly in concert versions of the story or in severely truncated stage versions. The production at the Châtelet, where the eight performances were sold out before they opened, is probably the most complete in about 300 years. The production goes to Caen, Christie's Norman outpost, in March, and will have three performances at London's Covent Garden in May.

For Christie, 50, this is another triumphant step in a career devoted mainly to "bringing a repertory, among the best in the world, back into focus and proving that it has something to say to a contemporary audience." His place in the French musical landscape is suggested by his sharing, with Pierre Boulez, the inaugural program of the new Cité de la Musique. The Arts Florissans ensemble he founded in 1979 has about 100 singers and instrumentalists expert in a repertory ranging from Monteverdi madrigals to Baroque opera — a challenge coming later this year — Beethoven's "Missa Solemnis."

He admits, too, that he has his eye on Mozart's operas, having already conducted "The Magic Flute" at Aix. But he adds that "we are approaching Mozart from the right side — going through the process in the same direction as the composer."

PEOPLE

Saint Laurent Drops Its 'Champagne' Name

The Yves Saint Laurent perfume called "Champagne," launched in 1993, will change its name worldwide by 1998. The name was withdrawn in France and Switzerland after winegrowers charged that YSL had no right to the name of the famous wine. Under an agreement reached by Sanofi/Yves Saint Laurent, the French Institut National des Appellations d'Origine, and Champagne winegrowers, the label will be withdrawn in Germany in October and phased out everywhere over three years. In France, the perfume has already been renamed "Rouge à Lèvres" (Lipstick).

Bona Staller, better known as Italy's former porn star Cicciolina, won provisional custody of her 2-year-old son, Ludwig Maximilian. A Rome appeals court threw out a request for custody by her former husband, the American artist Jeff Koons, who had the backing of a New York judge's ruling. A final decision is expected later.

Two nieces of Rudolf Nureyev are contesting the sale of two apartments by the dancer shortly before his death in 1993. Rosa and Gouzel Nureyev are challenging the validity of the sale of the apartments and their contents to one of the foundations Nureyev created.

After criticism of its snubbing of the acclaimed documentary film, "Hoop Dreams," the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has agreed to review how documentaries are nominated for Oscars. Arthur Hiller, the academy president, said, "Hoop Dreams" was not among the nominees in the documentary feature category, although it collected some of the best reviews for any movie last year.

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Europe

	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Andorra	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Austria	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Belgium	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22
Denmark	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
France	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Germany	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Greece	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Ireland	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Italy	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Japan	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Spain	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Sweden	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Switzerland	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.K.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.S.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25

North America

	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Alaska	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Canada	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Central America	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Caribbean	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Europe	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Japan	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Mexico	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
South America	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.S.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.K.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25

Asia

	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Andorra	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Austria	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Belgium	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22
Denmark	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
France	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Germany	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Greece	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Ireland	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Italy	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Japan	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Spain	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Sweden	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Switzerland	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.K.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.S.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25

Latin America

	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Andorra	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Austria	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Belgium	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22
Denmark	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
France	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Germany	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Greece	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Ireland	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Italy	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Japan	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Spain	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Sweden	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Switzerland	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.K.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.S.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25

Africa

	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Andorra	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Austria	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Belgium	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22	11-13	17-22
Denmark	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
France	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Germany	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Greece	20-28	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Ireland	12-22	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19	8-14	15-19
Italy	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Japan	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Spain	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Sweden	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
Switzerland	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.K.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25
U.S.	18-25	12-13	18-25	12-15	18-25	12-15	18-25

WEEKEND SKI REPORT

Resort	Depth L	Mts. U	Res. Plates	Snow State	Last Snow	Comments
Andorra						
Pas de la Casa	50	70	Fair	Open	Hwy 11/2	Resort 50% open, spring skiing
Soldeu	30	80	Fair	Open	Spring 11/2	Most lifts open, top runs good
Austria						
Ischgl	90 200	Good	Open	Var 14-2	All 41 lifts open, some icy patches	
Kitzbühel	35 280	Good	Open	Var 16-2	All lifts open, new snow	
Mayrhofen	10 75	Good	Cld	Wet 16-2	All 22 lifts open, heavy conditions	
Obergurgl	50 125	Good	Open	Var 14-2	21 lifts open, excellent skiing	
St. Anton	85 370	Good	Open	Var 14-2	All 35 lifts open, generally good	
France						
Alpe d'Huez	180 360	Good	Open	Var 15-2	75 lifts open, fresh snow	
Les Arcs	155 440	Good	Open	Var 16-2	71 lifts open, snowing	
Les Deux	215 280	Good	Open	Var 15-2	40 lifts open, wet skiing	
Chamonix	70 540	Good	Open	Var 14-2	46 lifts open, snow expected	
Courchevel	155 270	Good	Open	Var 15-2	58 lifts open, wet skiing	
Les Deux Alpes	95 345	Good	Open	Var 15-2	50 lifts open, good skiing	
Megève	80 200	Fair	Open	Var 14-2	39 lifts open, mostly wet snow	
Meribel	85 270	Good	Open	Var 15-2	All 50 lifts and all 76 pistes open	
La Plagne	165 325	Good	Open	Var 15-2	Some lifts on weather-hold	
Serre Chevalier	50 125	Good	Open	Var 13-2	68 lifts open, lovely skiing	
Tignes	195 280	Good	Open	Var 15-2	Lifts at altitude closed by storm	
Val d'Isère	160 350	Good	Open	Var 15-2	47 lifts open, resort runs heavy	
Val Thorens	180 320	Good	Open	Var 15-2	All 28 lifts open, pistes are good	
Germany						
Garmisch	5 235	Good	Some	Open	Var 16-2	38 lifts open, fresh snow
Oberstdorf	10 160	Good	Open	Pd 30-1	26 lifts open, mid runs good	
Italy						
Bormio	25 110	Good	Open	Var 14-2	Most lifts open, best above 2000m	
Cervinia	80 250	Good	Open	Var 15-2	34 lifts open, great piste skiing	
Cortina	95 325	Good	n/a	Open	Var 14-2	All 23 lifts open, fresh snow
La Thuile	45 320	Good	Open	Var 16-2	All 15 lifts open, generally good	
Switzerland						
Arosa	80 110	Good	Open	Hwy 14/2	All 16 lifts open, bare patches	
Cras Montana	90 325	Good	Open	Var 15-2	Lifts good above 1800m	
Deer	60 175	Good	Open	Var 16-2	All 36 lifts open, 25mm of snow	
Grindelwald	80 150	Good	Open	Hwy 14/2	All 15 lifts open, powder pistes	
Klosters	45 175	Good	Open	Var 14/2	All 25 lifts open, some powder	
St. Moritz	80 100	Good	Open	Var 14/2	54 lifts open, lovely upper runs	
Verbena	35 140	Good	Open	Var 14/2	All 39 lifts open, lower runs wet	
Wengen	15 100	Good	Open	Var 14/2	All 15 lifts open, excellent skiing	
Zermatt	70 290	Good	Open	Var 14/2	72 lifts open, excellent skiing	
U.S.						
Aspen	205 210	Pdwr	Open	Pdwr 16/2	All 8 lifts open, masses of powder	
Brainard	175 215	Pdwr	Open	Pdwr 16/2	16/17 lifts open, deep powder	
Steamboat	300 525	Pdwr	Open	Pdwr 15/2	25/30 lifts open, excellent skiing	
Steamboat	195 165	Good	Open	Pdwr 16/2	All 20 lifts open, good skiing	
Telluride	170 180	Pdwr	Open	Pdwr 16/2	All 10 lifts open, plenty of powder	
Vail	180 220	Pdwr	Open	Pdwr 16/2	All 25 lifts open, superb powder	
Canada						
Whistler	90 250	Good	Open	Var 16/2	All lifts open, fresh snowfall	
Key: L/H-Dpht in cm on lower and upper slopes, Mts. Pistes Mountside pistes, Res. Pistes Runs leading to resort village, Art Artificial snow						
Reports supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain						